

BEDLAM IN CAIRO

MAGGIE MICHAEL
SARAH EL DEEB

Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt was rocked Monday by the deadliest day since its Islamist president was toppled by the military, with more than 50 of his supporters killed by security forces as the country's top Muslim cleric raised the specter of civil war.

The military found itself on the defensive after the bloodshed, but the interim president drove



A supporter of Mohamed Morsi shows his hands smeared with blood after clashes with security forces near the Republican Guard headquarters in Cairo, July 5, 2013.

(Yusuf Sayman/The New York Times)

ahead with the army's political plan. He issued a swift timetable for the process of amending the Islamist-backed constitution and set parliamentary and presidential elections for early 2014.

The killings further entrenched the battle lines between supporters and opponents of ousted President Mohammed Morsi, who was removed by the military July 3 after a year in office following mass demonstrations by millions of Egyptians.

Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood called for an uprising, accusing troops of gunning down protesters, while the military blamed armed Islamists for provoking its forces.

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BACK ON THE TRAIL

Former New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer, who is running for New York City comptroller, speaks to reporters at Union Square in New York, July 8, 2013. Spitzer, who resigned as governor of New York in 2008 amid a prostitution scandal, is wagering that voters are ready to look past his previous misconduct.

(Damon Winter/The New York Times)

As Spitzer campaigns, candidates, voters weigh in

MICHAEL BARBARO
MICHAEL M. GRYNBAUM
JAVIER C. HERNÁNDEZ
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NEW YORK - Eliot Spitzer hit the campaign trail Monday, navigating a crush of cameras and wiping sweat onto his pinstriped blue suit as he began a four-day effort to gather enough signatures to qualify as a candidate for city comptroller.

Spitzer, who resigned as governor in 2008 after acknowledging that he had patronized prostitutes, spent nearly an hour fielding questions from journalists and voters, enduring hecklers and unsolicited compliments as he made an awkward return to retail politics after a five-year hiatus.

At one point, an older wom-

an in a straw hat leaned in to the scrum around Spitzer and declared: "His wife and his daughters understand. Why shouldn't we?" But a few feet away, a man in a blue polo shirt loudly castigated Spitzer, saying, "You slept with hookers, and you lied and cheated on your family."

Spitzer, maintaining a stoic smile, outlined his rationale

for seeking an office with little national profile, saying he would seek to use it as a platform from which to influence urban policy. Unable to shake loose the crowd, he circled the park filled with camera-snapping tourists and shirtless skateboarders, hopped into a taxi and drove off.

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More than 50 dead in Egypt as chaos mounts

Continued from front

The shootings began during a protest by about 1,000 Islamists outside the Republican Guard headquarters where Morsi, Egypt's first freely elected leader, was detained last week. Demonstrators and members of Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood said troops descended on them and opened fire unprovoked as they finished dawn prayers.

"I was in the last row praying. They were firing from the left and right," said Nashat Mohammed, who had come from southern Egypt to join the sit-in and was wounded in the knee. "We said, 'Stop, we're your brothers.' They shot at us from every direction."

After a battle lasting about three hours, at least 51 protesters were killed and 435 wounded, most from live ammunition and birdshot, emergency services chief Mohammed Sultan told to the state news agency.

At a nationally televised news conference, Army Col. Ahmed Mohammed Ali said police and troops came under "heavy gunfire" at around 4 a.m. and attackers on rooftops opened fire with guns and

Molotov cocktails. A soldier and two policemen were killed, and 42 in the security forces were wounded, eight critically, he said. While he said troops had

showed protesters on rooftops lobbing projectiles at troops below, including firebombs and toilet seats. It also showed some armed protesters firing at

troops appeared to move on the camp.

University student Mirna el-Helbawi told The Associated Press that she watched from her 14th floor apart-



Egyptian armed forces spokesman Col. Ahmed Mohamed Ali talks during a press conference in Cairo, Egypt, Monday, July 8, 2013.

(AP Photo/Amr Nabil)

a right to defend the facility, Ali did not directly explain how the protester deaths occurred. He expressed condolences but offered no apologies for the deaths.

A collection of video of the clashes provided by the military to Egyptian TV

close range at the troops, but it did not show what the military did. It was also not clear at what time in the fighting the videos were shot. It included aerial views of the clashes.

Several witnesses from outside the protest said the gunfire started when

ment overlooking the scene, after she heard protesters banging on metal barricades, a common battle cry. El-Helbawi, 21, said she saw troops and police approaching the protesters, who were lined up on the street behind a make-shift wall. □

White House rules out Egypt aid suspension for near term

PETER BAKER

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The White House called on all sides in Egypt on Monday to refrain from violence and return to democracy but rejected an immediate cutoff of American assistance despite a law requiring the suspension of aid to countries after a military coup d'état. Jay Carney, the White House press secretary, told reporters that the Obama administration would study the events in Egypt to determine whether the military seizing of power constitutes a military coup d'état under law. But he added that the administration planned to take its time in making such a determination and ruled out any suspension of aid in the near term.

"We think that would not be in our best interests," Carney said. "We are going to examine this and monitor this and take the time necessary in making the determination in a manner that's consistent with our policy objectives and our national security interests." He added, "But we do not believe that it is in our interests to make a precipitous decision or determination to change our assistance program right away." The White House hopes to use the leverage of \$1.5 billion annual aid to Egypt to shape events without actually cutting it off, even as violence has spiraled in the days since the military forced out President Mohammed Morsi. Shutting down aid at this point, White House officials have said privately in recent days, would reduce their ability to forestall further violence and repression of dissent in Egypt. President Barack Obama has made no public comments about Egypt since Morsi's ouster other than a written statement. On Monday he once again offered no assessment or advice about what is happening in Cairo and elsewhere in the country. □

Canada train derailment death toll rises to 13

BENJAMIN SHINGLER

Associated Press

LAC-MEGANTIC, Quebec

(AP) — Traumatized survivors of an oil train derailment that wiped out the heart of a small town braced for more bad news as inspectors were finally cleared to enter the charred site's epicenter and look for remains late Monday, more than two days after the disaster that killed at least 13 people. A total of 50 were missing and the death toll was sure to rise.

Quebec provincial police Sgt. Benoit Richard said eight more bodies had been found in the wreckage after firefighters doused the flames and cooled down some of the oil tankers that were in danger of exploding. Five bodies were found over

the weekend, and police would not say where the newly discovered ones were, for fear of upsetting

loose early Saturday, sped downhill nearly seven miles (11 kilometers) into the town of Lac-Megantic,



Searchers dig through the rubble for victims in Lac-Megantic, Quebec, Monday, July 8, 2013, after a train derailed, igniting tanker cars carrying crude oil early Saturday.

(AP Photo/Ryan Remiorz)

families.

All but one of the train's 73 tanker cars were carrying oil when they came

near the Maine border, and derailed. At least five of the cars exploded.

Maude Verrault, a waitress

at downtown's Musi-Cafe, was outside smoking when she spotted the blazing train barreling toward her. "I've never seen a train moving so fast in my life, and I saw flames ... Then someone screamed 'the train is going to derail!' and that's when I ran," Verrault said. She said she felt the heat scorch her back as she ran from the explosion, but was too terrified to look back.

The blasts destroyed about 30 buildings, including a public library and Musi-Cafe, a popular bar that was filled with revelers, and forced about a third of the town's 6000 residents from their homes. Much of the area where the bar once stood was burned to the ground. Burned-out car frames dotted the landscape. □

Perry will not seek re-election as Texas Governor



Texas Gov. Rick Perry at a news conference at the Holt Cat dealership in San Antonio, Texas, July 8, 2013. Perry, a Republican who has led Texas since 2000, announced Monday that he would not seek another term in Austin but would instead "pray and reflect and work to determine my own future path."

JOHN SCHWARTZ

© 2013 New York Times

SAN ANTONIO, Texas - Rick Perry, the longest-serving governor of Texas and an unsuccessful Republican presidential candidate in 2012, announced that he would not seek another term in Austin but would instead "pray and reflect and work to determine my own future path."

"The time has come to pass on the mantle of leadership," Perry told a crowd of supporters in a cavernous heavy equipment dealership here. "Today I am announcing I will not seek re-election as governor of Texas."

As for what happens after his term is over in 18 months, he said he would remain focused on the state. He made no mention of a presidential run in 2016, but instead extolled the advances Texas had made under his leadership since 2000.

Standing on a temporary dais against a backdrop of American and Texas flags, Perry said, "It's been an improbable journey that has taken me from a farm in this place called Paint Creek, Texas, to the governor's office, and each day has been an honor."

He faced a friendly crowd of longtime supporters and employees of Holt Cat, a Caterpillar dealership.

The owner, Peter Holt, also owns the San Antonio Spurs and is a major contributor to Perry's campaigns. "We have created the strongest economy in the nation," Perry told the crowd, through encouraging growth, balancing

budgets and overhauling the tort system.

"We have stood strong against unwise policies from Washington that would break the bank," he said. "We have better protected the right to life. We have protected the sanc-

tity of marriage."

Perry said he was proudest of the jobs created in the state while he has been governor, claiming 1.6 million new positions.

"I will truly miss serving in this capacity," he said, "because it is the greatest job in modern politics."

Perry assumed the governorship after George W. Bush left office to become president; he was then elected to three full terms. He withdrew from the 2012 presidential race after a lackluster primary showing. But he recently regained the national stage when he squared off with Democrats in the state Senate who opposed a stringent anti-abortion bill, which seems headed for easy passage in the Republican-controlled Legislature. In particular, he took on Sen. Wendy Davis, a Fort Worth Democrat, after her 11-hour filibuster halted the bill's progress, at least temporarily.

He also spoke out against her directly at a National

Right to Life convention in Texas, suggesting that Davis especially should understand that "every life matters."

He later explained to reporters that she had been a teen mother, and that her own mother had been a single mother and might have considered abortion. "What if her mom had said, 'I just can't do this, I don't want to do this'?" Perry said.

The comments angered fans of Davis, who saw the attack as unstatesmanlike and offensive.

The anti-abortion bill is almost certain to pass during a special legislative session called by Perry. Davis has said she will not filibuster again, and with weeks before the end of the session, a filibuster would not be humanly possible in any case.

In an interview on "Fox News Sunday," Perry predicted, "This is going to pass." He added, "I'm pretty good at counting votes." □

(Jennifer Whitney/The New York Times)

As Spitzer campaigns, candidates, voters weigh in

Continued from front

Many of the Democratic candidates for office this year took a dim view of the Spitzer candidacy, and some compared his behavior to that of Anthony D. Weiner, a Democratic candidate for mayor who resigned from Congress two years ago after acknowledging that he had exchanged sexually explicit communications over the Internet with multiple women he knew only online.

"The question with both Anthony Weiner and Eliot Spitzer is, what have they been doing to earn this second chance?" asked Christine C. Quinn, speaker of the City Council and the only woman in the crowded top tier of Democratic candidates for mayor. She added: "What have they been doing since their dishonest behavior? I don't think we see all that much from either of these men that would put them

in a position where they would have earned a second chance - redeemed themselves from their selfish behavior and earned a second chance by New

York's voters." who previously served as city comptroller and readily acknowledged that Spitzer would be qualified for the job.

"Eliot served as a very



Former New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer, who is running for New York City comptroller, hails a cab after speaking to reporters and collecting signatures for his application at Union Square in New York, July 8, 2013.

(Damon Winter/The New York Times)

A more measured take came from William C. Thompson, Jr., a Democratic mayoral candidate

strong public servant," Thompson said as he greeted commuters at an Upper West Side subway station Monday morning.

"Everybody wants to run, feel free to run."

Like several of his mayoral rivals, Thompson had already pledged support for Scott M. Stringer, the Manhattan borough president and the leading Democratic candidate for comptroller.

"I think Scott will bring, you know, a strong background to that job," Thompson said.

Weiner, not one to be reticent with reporters, was unusually reserved Monday, deflecting nearly a dozen queries about how Spitzer's re-emergence could affect his own campaign for mayor.

"I think everyone was surprised, but it hasn't changed my life at all, to be honest with you," Weiner said outside a bicycle shop in Chelsea.

In a five-minute news conference, Weiner did not once refer to Spitzer by name, or even by pronoun. □

Investigators turn to cockpit decisions in Asiana crash

JOAN LOWY
MARTHA MENDOZA
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Investigators trying to understand why Asiana Airlines Flight 214 crash-landed fo-

monitoring him and why no one noticed that the plane was coming in too slow.

Authorities also reviewed the initial rescue efforts after fire officials acknowledged that one of their trucks may

accident's only fatalities. National Transportation Safety Board Chairman Deborah Hersman said investigators watched airport surveillance video to determine whether an

weeks to rule in the matter. The students had been in the rear of the aircraft, where many of the most seriously injured passengers were seated, Hersman said.

The NTSB also said part of the jet's tail section was found in San Francisco Bay, and debris from the seawall was carried several hundred feet down the runway, indicating the plane hit the seawall on its approach.

Investigators have said Flight 214 was flying "significantly below" its target speed during approach when the crew tried to abort the landing just before the plane smashed onto the runway. Authorities do not know yet whether the pilot's inexperience with the Boeing 777 and landing it at San Francisco's airport played a role. The airline acknowledged Monday in Seoul that the pilot at the controls had flown that type of plane for only a short time and had never before landed one at that airport.

Asiana spokeswoman Lee Hyomin said pilot Lee Gang-guk had logged nearly 10,000 hours operating other planes but had only 43 hours in the 777, a plane she said he was still getting used to.

It's not unusual for veteran pilots to learn about new aircraft by flying with more experienced colleagues. Another pilot on the flight, Lee Jeong-min, had 12,390 hours of flying experience, including 3,220 hours on the 777, according to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport in South Korea.

Lee Jeong-min was the deputy pilot helping Lee Gang-guk get accustomed to the 777, according to Asiana Airlines.

It was unclear whether the other two pilots were in the cockpit, which in the Boeing 777 typically seats four. But that would be standard procedure at most airlines at the end of a long international flight.

NTSB lead investigator Bill English said pilot interviews were going slowly because

of the need for translation. The interviews began only after agents from the Korean Aviation and Rail Accident Investigation Board arrived from South Korea.

New details of the investigation have also raised questions about whether the pilots may have been so reliant on automated cockpit systems that they failed to notice the plane's airspeed had dropped dangerously low, aviation safety experts and other airline pilots said.

Information gleaned from the Boeing 777's flight-data recorders revealed a jet that appeared to be descending normally until the last half-minute before impact.

The autopilot was switched off at about 1,600 feet as the plane began its final descent, according to an account of the last 82 seconds of flight provided by Hersman.

Over the next 42 seconds, the plane appeared to descend normally, reaching about 500 feet and slowing to 134 knots (154 mph), a 777 pilot for a major airline familiar with Hersman's description told The Associated Press. The pilot spoke on the condition of anonymity because his company had not authorized him to speak publicly.

But something went wrong during the following 18 seconds. The plane continued slowing to 118 knots (136 mph), well below its target speed of 137 knots (158 mph) that is typical for crossing the runway threshold. By that time, it had descended to just 200 feet.

Eight seconds later, with the speed still falling, Hersman said, the throttles were moved forward, an apparent attempt by the pilot to increase speed. But it was too little, too late.

Five seconds later, at 50 percent power, speed began to increase.

A key question raised by the NTSB's account is why two experienced pilots — the pilot flying the plane and another supervising pilot in the other seat — apparently didn't notice the plane's airspeed problem. □



Deborah Hersman, chairwoman of the National Transportation Safety Board, speaks at a news conference on the Asiana crash, Monday, July 8, 2013 in San Francisco, Calif. Investigators said Asiana Airlines Flight 214 was traveling "significantly below" the target speed during its approach and that the crew tried to abort the landing just before it smashed onto the runway.

(AP Photo/George Nikitin)

cused Monday on the actions of an experienced pilot learning his way around a new aircraft, fellow pilots who were supposed to be

have run over one of the two Chinese teenagers killed in the crash at San Francisco International Airport. The students were the

emergency vehicle hit one of the students. But they have not reached any firm conclusions. A coroner said he would need at least two

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Friends testify Zimmerman is the one screaming for help

LIZETTE ALVAREZ

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SANFORD, Fla. - Who yelled "help"?

As the defense continued on Monday to roll out witnesses in the George Zimmerman trial, now entering its third week, that question remains a pivotal one. It may also remain unanswerable. Several of Zimmerman's good friends took the stand to say they were sure that the person in distress screaming "help" in the background of a 911 call was Zimmerman, not Trayvon Martin, the teenager he shot and killed. Earlier in the trial, the prosecution put several people on the stand, including Martin's mother, Sybrina Fulton, who said it was Martin screaming for help. "There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that is George Zimmerman," John Donnelly, a friend of Zimmerman's who served as a combat medic in Vietnam and is now a physician assistant, testified on Monday.

The two sides have wran-

gled repeatedly over the issue, which could help determine who the aggressor was in the confrontation that led to Martin's death. On Monday, a recording

an unarmed black teenager who was walking to a house where he was a guest on the night of Feb. 26, 2012.

Zimmerman, the neighbor-

maintain that Zimmerman purposefully followed Martin and instigated the confrontation. The cries for help on the 911 call are distinct. But an FBI audio expert said the quality of the recording and the short duration of the screams, among other things, made it too difficult to isolate who it was. He suggested that a person who is familiar with either Zimmerman's or Martin's voice under similar circumstances might be able to identify the person in the call.

On the stand, Donnelly said he had put off listening to the entire 911 call until recently because he knew he would find it upsetting. But on Saturday, knowing he would have to testify this week, he called up the recording online and listened to it twice.

Donnelly, who described Zimmerman as a "very dear friend," said he and his wife had donated \$3,000 to efforts on his behalf and had spent \$1,700 on a court wardrobe for him.

The prosecution used the witness's testimony dur-

ing cross-examination to repeatedly play another often-heard recording: the one of Zimmerman referring to the person he found suspicious as "punks" and saying "they always get away." He used expletives in both remarks.

Bernie de la Rionda, the chief prosecutor in the case, suggested to witnesses that Zimmerman was angry or agitated. Zimmerman's friends disputed that characterization.

Mark O'Mara, one of Zimmerman's lawyers, flipped the argument to ask the witnesses whether Zimmerman sounded full of "hatred," "ill-will" or "spite." The answer was no.

Those three words are important because a second-degree murder conviction requires the demonstration of a "depraved mind," one that harbored hatred, ill-will or spite. Other testimony noted that Zimmerman could shoot a weapon with both his left and right hands. While Zimmerman writes with his left hand, he does most everything else with his right hand. □



Mark Osterman, a friend of George Zimmerman, who is charged with second-degree murder in shooting 17-year-old Trayvon Martin, describes the type of gun Zimmerman owned while testifying at Zimmerman's trial in Sanford, Fla., July 8, 2013. Zimmerman's trial is in its second week.

(Joe Burbank/Pool via The New York Times)

of the 911 call made by a neighbor was played repeatedly in the courtroom. Zimmerman, 29, is charged with second-degree murder in the death of Martin,

hood watch coordinator for the housing complex, claimed that he shot Martin in self-defense after Martin punched him and repeatedly slammed his head into the pavement. Prosecutors

Woman stabbed on subway in apparently random attack

J. DAVID GOODMAN

RANDY LEONARD

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NEW YORK - A knife-wielding woman riding an uptown subway train on Monday morning stabbed a 39-year-old Manhattan woman multiple times at the 59th Street and Lexington Avenue station, a violent climax to what began, the police said, as a staring match between strangers. The victim, stabbed in the left shoulder and stomach, stumbled out of the station and into the Bloomingdale's department store seeking assistance. She was not identified by the police and was in stable condition at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell hospital.

Passengers on the train subdued a suspect, a 31-year-old woman who the police said appeared to be homeless. She was taken to Bellevue Hospital Center for psychiatric evaluation.

She had yet to be publicly identified by the authorities pending formal charges. The attack appeared to those on board the No. 6 train to have exploded almost out of nowhere shortly before 10 a.m. on a busy subway car, the police said. The assailant, who was carrying a kitchen knife, exchanged no words with the victim, the police said, but the two women appeared to have been staring at each other in the moments before the attack.

A 19-year-old woman moved to intervene, and the attacker pulled her hair and punched her in the face, the police said. That woman was also being treated at Weill Cornell.

A Bloomingdale's employee who did not want his name used because he was not authorized to talk to reporters said a woman had come into the store bleeding. □

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Ex-protégé of Bulger recounts 1982 double murder

RICHARD A. OPPEL Jr
© 2013 New York Times

BOSTON - Brian Halloran had a head so big he was known as Balloonhead to South Boston hoodlums like Kevin Weeks. So when Halloran got up to leave a restaurant one day in 1982 - and alleged crime boss James "Whitey" Bulger sat in a souped-up 1975 Chevy Malibu outside waiting to kill him - Weeks and Bulger had a code. "The balloon is rising," Weeks said over a walkie-talkie to Bulger. Then, as their target headed outside, "the balloon is in the air." With that, Bulger sped toward the blue Datsun that contained Halloran and Michael Donahue, a friend giving him a ride. Bulger screamed "Brian!" and fired. The bullets killed Donahue. But Halloran survived the fusillade and got out of the Datsun, Weeks testified Monday in U.S. District Court in Boston. "He did what?" asked Brian Kelly, the assistant U.S.

attorney. "He exited the vehicle. He was still alive," said Weeks, 57, a government witness who has written two books about Bulger, his mentor. Seeing that Halloran was still mov-



This undated surveillance photo released Monday, July 8, 2013 by the U.S. Attorney's office at federal court in Boston shows James "Whitey" Bulger, left, with his former right hand man, Kevin Weeks. Weeks took the witness stand Monday at Bulger's racketeering trial and described a double slaying, multiple extortions and drug dealing. (AP Photo/U.S. Attorney's Office)

ing, Bulger did a quick U-turn, Weeks recalled, and shot him again. The bullets struck with such force that his "body was bouncing off the ground." Halloran

became a target after an FBI agent told Bulger that he had been informing on him. Weeks - protégé and planned successor to Bulger, South Boston's notorious boss now on trial for murder

and a host of other crimes - knew the killing meant he was forever tied to the Irish mobster. "I was involved in a double homicide, so I knew there was no getting

out," Weeks said. The account offered by Weeks, who is testifying as part of a plea deal that led him to serve five years in prison for crimes including being an accessory to five murders, was among the sharpest yet in the trial to tie Bulger to any of the 19 murders he is accused of playing a role in. In court, there was little meaningful body language between the two men, once so close that Weeks was considered almost an adopted son. After Weeks was indicted in 1999, and been told that Bulger had been an FBI informant, he pleaded guilty and led the authorities to several bodies. His book "Where's Whitey?" was published before Bulger's 2011 arrest in California. Bulger, 83, has pleaded not guilty, and his lawyer has insisted he was never an informant. A college dropout, Weeks said his first jobs for Bulger involved driving him around and picking up en-

velopes from bookies. They would take walks through Castle Island and the circular path, known as the Sugar Bowl, in South Boston. "Sometimes I'd beat somebody up," he added, playing the wiseguy to the hilt. He also testified, euphemistically, about extortion. When a drug dealer decided to get out of the business, Bulger told Weeks the dealer had agreed to pay \$500,000 to retire. The payment was for "permission to get away from Whitey, without being killed?" the prosecutor asked Weeks. "It was a severance package," Weeks replied. Weeks drew a few laughs when he insisted, with what seemed sincere umbrage, that when he and Bulger pressured a South Boston liquor store owner to sell his business for less than what he wanted, it was really an effort to avoid being cheated by the owner. "It wasn't your regular extortion," he said. □

Defense opens case in Manning's WikiLeaks trial

DAVID DISHNEAU
PAULINE JELINEK
Associated Press
FORT MEADE, Maryland
(AP) — Lawyers for a U.S. Army soldier who gave thousands of classified documents to the secrets-spilling website WikiLeaks opened their defense

at his trial Monday with leaked video of a helicopter attack in Baghdad — footage that portrayed the military in a negative light. The video is the basis of an espionage charge alleging Bradley Manning had unauthorized possession of U.S. defense information.

Manning has admitted to leaking the cockpit video showing a 2007 attack that killed 11 men, including a Reuters news photographer and his driver. The aircrew can be heard laughing and calling the victims "dead bastards." Manning has said he was

troubled by their behavior and by the U.S. military's refusal to release it. The Pentagon concluded that the troops reasonably mistook the journalists for enemy combatants. WikiLeaks posted it in April 2010 under the title "Collateral Murder." The 25-year-old Manning admitted he leaked the video and hundreds of thousands of classified Iraq and Afghanistan war logs and diplomatic cables while working as an intelligence analyst in Baghdad in 2009 and 2010. Manning says he leaked the material because he was troubled by what it revealed about U.S. foreign policy. Manning's defense team asked the military judge to acquit him of seven charges for lack of incriminating evidence, including the most serious charge of aiding the enemy, which carries a possible life sentence. The government has until Thursday to respond, the judge said. Manning faces 21 con-

tested counts. He pleaded guilty in February to reduced versions of some charges. He faces up to 20 years for the admitted offenses. Prospective witnesses include Harvard law professor Yochai Benkler, who has written that leaking something to WikiLeaks is no different than leaking it to The New York Times. Benkler's testimony could refute the government's assertion that Manning knowingly gave intelligence to the enemy because he knew al-Qaida members would see what WikiLeaks posted online. On Monday, the defense called its first witness, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Joshua Ehresman, to establish the wide authorized access Manning and other intelligence analysts had. Ehresman testified that Manning and other intelligence analysts scoured a classified computer network for bits of information needed by field commanders. □

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US Financial Front: White House: This year's deficit to drop to \$759

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House said Monday that the federal budget deficit for the current fiscal year will shrink to \$759 billion. That's more than \$200 billion less than the administration predicted just three months ago.

The new figures reflect additional revenues generated by the improving U.S. economy and take into account automatic, across-the-board spending cuts that the Obama administration had hoped to avert.

The 2013 budget year ending Sept. 30 will be the first one of Obama's presidency in which the deficit won't exceed \$1 trillion. Obama inherited a struggling economy and record deficits.

As a percentage of the economy, the new deficit would be half the size of what it was when Obama entered office. At the time, he vowed to cut the deficit in half by the end of his first term, a pledge that took longer to fulfill.

The White House projected that economic growth would be slightly slower in the coming years than it forecast in April. The report said the automatic spending cuts that kicked in during March will slow down economic growth this year from the 2.6 percent increase it forecast for the fourth quarter of this year to a 2.4 percent increase.

But the White House sees a slightly rosier jobs picture. It projects that unemployment will average 7 percent next year and reach 6.8 percent in the final quarter of 2014. That's an improvement over the 7.2

percent unemployment it forecast in April as an average for 2014.

A 2011 deficit-cutting deal with Republicans has cut deficits somewhat, as did a tax increase enacted earlier this year on upper-bracket earners.

Last year's deficit registered about \$1.1 trillion. The White House earlier this year predicted the 2013 deficit would be \$973 billion. The Congressional Budget Office has an even more optimistic \$670 billion deficit projection for 2013, and it wouldn't be unusual for CBO's figures to turn out to be more accurate.

Over the upcoming decade, the White House predicts accumulated deficits of \$5.8 trillion. In April, it predicted \$5.3 trillion in total deficits over 2014-2023.

White House budget director Sylvia Mathews Burwell said that this year's deficit is less than half of the record deficit posted four years ago when measured against the size of the economy. The 2013 deficit would equal 4.7 percent of gross domestic product versus the 10.1 percent of GDP in 2009.

The White House economic forecasts are more optimistic than those projected by the CBO and by a poll of top business economists by the Blue Chip Economic Indicators. But it is less upbeat than the projections of the Federal Reserve. For instance, while the White House believes the annual average unemployment rate in 2015 will be 6.5 percent, while the Fed has forecast an average 2015 jobless rate of between 5.8 percent and 6.2 percent. □



White House Budget Director Sylvia Mathews Burwell testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington. The White House said Monday that the federal budget deficit for the current fiscal year will shrink to \$759 billion. That's more than \$200 billion less than the administration predicted just three months ago. The new figures reflect additional revenues generated by the improving economy and take into account automatic, across-the-board spending cuts that the White House had hoped to avert. (AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

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Greece approved to get next rescue loan payments

RAF CASERT
SARAH DiLORENZO
Associated Press
BRUSSELS (AP) — Greece secured a much-needed 6.8 billion euros (\$8.7 billion) in rescue loans Monday after squeaking by an inspection from its international creditors, who are demanding it slash thousands of civil servant jobs and government spending. Experts from the European Central Bank, the European Union and the International Monetary Fund said Greece's finances are improving, although they warned that it is making reforms too slowly and that the outlook for its economy, which has been in recession since 2007, remains uncertain.

But the so-called troika of creditors still recommended that the next loan payments be made, and the finance ministers from the 17 countries that use the euro agreed. Belgian Finance Minister Koen Geens said the loans would be divided into three groups and disbursed in July, August and October. "Greece is getting on track," German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble said as he left the meeting in Brussels. "It is not easy for them." After years of overspending, Greece nearly went bankrupt and is now surviving on rescue loans. To ensure that the government keeps up with the reforms it promised in exchange for 240 billion euros in bailout loans, its creditors turn over the funds slowly — and only after rigorous assessments of the coun-

try's progress. Greece's creditors said the country's reform program remained "broadly in line" with projections. It also laid out the hope of a gradual return to growth next year. However, it added that "the outlook remains uncertain." Greece has been hammered by a financial crisis since 2009 and is in the sixth year of a deep recession. The troika said "policy implementation is behind in some areas" and that the Greek authorities have said they will do more to ensure delivery of the fiscal targets for 2013-14, noting in particular efforts to restrict overspending in the health sector. □



Municipal police officers gather in protest outside the Interior Ministry in central Athens, Monday, July 8, 2013. Thousands of municipal workers staged a demonstration over government plans to include them in an involuntary transfer scheme demanded by Greece's rescue creditors.
(AP Photo/Petros Giannakouris)

IMF, Eurozone kiss and make up after quarrel

RAF CASERT
SARAH DiLORENZO
Associated Press
BRUSSELS (AP) — In the hardnosed business of Europe's economic rescues, this was as close to kiss-and-make-up as they get. One month after the European Commission and the International Monetary Fund openly feuded over the strategies they used in the bailout of Greece, the organizations' leaders couldn't say enough to paper over their differences. "It has not always been completely plain vanilla from the first day," said IMF chief Christine Lagarde, as she sat with the European Union's Olli Rehn in the press conference after Monday's meeting of the euro area's finance ministers. Earlier, they together agreed to provide the next

installment of rescue loans for the Mediterranean nation. Sitting on the same dais as Lagarde, Rehn, the EU's economic and monetary affairs commissioner, called the feud a "storm in a teacup." That was a stark departure from last month when he said Lagarde's IMF role was throwing the "dirty water" on Europe in a report that blamed some notable failure in handling Greece's 240 billion euro (\$310 billion) bailout on its European partners. The IMF and the European Central Bank and the EU's executive arm, the Commission, form the so-called troika of creditors that manages the bailouts for Greece and the other three euro countries — Ireland, Portugal and Cyprus — that have received

emergency loans. Rehn and Lagarde played starring roles in those bailouts. The two were brought together as part of an emergency solution in the heat of Europe's debt crisis. At the time, Greece was on the brink of a financial collapse that would have pushed it out of the 17-nation eurozone, with potentially devastating consequences for the group as a whole. Both said that any differences expressed were made in the heat of the moment, as both had to improvise quickly on how to deal with a rapidly moving situation that stretched the sense of financial imagination and rulemaking to its limits. "Clearly, the troika chemistry is something we had to invent as we faced the crisis and as we had to put

programs in place," Lagarde said. Still, Rehn said last month it was no reason for the IMF to try to whitewash its role in the crisis at the expense of the European Commission. After they secured Monday's agreement together, Rehn's views had changed. "It is natural that there may be some tensions, but we have been able to show that we work in practice, even though in theory it might it might not always be supposed to be working," he said. Still, Lagarde's IMF got the last word, saying the eurozone risks being mired in low growth and high unemployment if they don't get their banks lending again and urgently reform labor markets, in an assessment of the 17-nation economy on Monday. □

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Report assails Pakistani officials over bin Laden



Pakistani donkey cart riders drive past a portrait of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden painted on a truck at fruit and vegetable market in Lahore, Pakistan.

(AP Photo/K.M. Chaudary)

SEBASTIAN ABBOT

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Al-Qaida founder Osama bin Laden was able to live in Pakistan undetected for nine years because of a breathtaking scale of negligence and incompetence at practically all levels of the Pakistani government, according to an official government report published by a TV channel on Monday.

The 336-page report was written by a commission tasked with investigating the circumstances surrounding the covert U.S. raid that killed bin Laden in Pakistan in May 2011. The pan-Arab Al-Jazeera satellite channel published the report on its website after it was leaked to the station by unknown sources.

Pakistani officials did not respond to requests for comment on the report's authenticity.

The U.S. Navy SEALs raid that killed bin Laden in the northwest town of Abbottabad outraged Pakistani officials because they were not told about it before-

hand. U.S. officials have said they kept Pakistan in the dark because they were worried the al-Qaida founder would be tipped off.

The fact that the compound where bin Laden was hiding was located only about one kilometer (half a mile) from Pakistan's equivalent of West Point led many in the U.S. to suspect Pakistani officials of aiding the al-Qaida chief, although Washington never found evidence to back that up.

The report said it also found no evidence that current or former Pakistani officials helped bin Laden hide, although it couldn't rule it out completely. It said very little is known about the network of support that bin Laden enjoyed in Pakistan, other than the group of family and backers that lived with him in Abbottabad.

The report lambasted all levels of government, including the powerful army and intelligence services, for failing to detect the terror leader as he lived in six

different places in Pakistan over nine years.

"To summarize, negligence and incompetence to a greater or lesser degree at almost all levels of government are clear," said the report, which was based on testimony from more than 200 witnesses, official documents and site visits. The criticism of the army and intelligence services was noteworthy in a country where officials often steer clear of taking these powerful organizations to task. But it's unclear if the report will cause any real repercussions. The commission recommended the government make the report public for fear it would be ignored or suppressed, but that never happened, even though it was completed months ago. The report was published on the same day that The

Associated Press reported that the top U.S. special operations commander ordered military files about the raid on bin Laden's hideout to be purged from Defense Department computers and sent to the CIA, where they could be more easily shielded from ever being made public. The report said it was shocking that nobody in the Pakistani government discovered bin Laden while he was living in Abbottabad for six years in a compound described as "hardly normal," because it was somewhat isolated from homes around it, had very high walls and was protected by barbed wire. Bin Laden wore a cowboy hat when he moved around the compound to avoid detection from above. □



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France's Sarkozy returns headfirst to political stage

SYLVIE CORBET
Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — A little over a year after he declared he would leave politics for good, France's Nicolas Sarkozy is back in the spotlight.

The combative ex-president attended a meeting of his troubled UMP party Monday where he was welcomed like a star. It could mark his first step toward candidacy in the next presidential election in 2017.

The 58-year-old Sarkozy had not made a political appearance since he lost the presidency to Socialist Francois Hollande in May 2012, after just one term in office. He also had not attended a UMP party meeting since 2007, when he was elected president. Some 800 UMP politicians were invited to Monday's event, closed to the media.

He spoke for half an hour about democratic plural-

ism, European issues such as the economic crisis, and French competitiveness. "This is not my political comeback. The day I

said, according to the extracts published on his official Twitter account. His supporters clearly regarded his comment



Former president Nicolas Sarkozy, right, leaves with Union for a Popular Movement (UMP) President Jean-Francois Cope, the headquarters in Paris, Monday July 8, 2013. Former president Nicolas Sarkozy appealed to the French people to rescue his Union for a Popular Movement (UMP), the Constitutional Council rejected his 2012 campaign finances, leaving the party heavily out of pocket. The loss to the party, which is already heavily indebted, is 11 million euros.

(AP Photo/Jacques Brinon)

will speak again, that will be to speak to the French about France," Sarkozy

about the future as good news. As Sarkozy left the UMP headquarters in Par-

is, they chanted "Nicholas, president," and he thanked them.

"That was a very important message, of friendship and solidarity with our political family," said party leader Jean-Francois Cope.

Last year, Sarkozy said that if voted out of office, he would "completely change my life. You won't hear from me." He later explained he aspired to a new life with his wife, singer and former model Carla Bruni, and their now-18-month-old daughter Giulia. But much has changed since then.

Sarkozy appears to be rejoining the political fray because of the embarrassing state his old party finds itself in.

His party, France's center-right Union for a Popular Movement, faced a farcical election for a new leader last year that left it badly divided.

And now it's on the edge of bankruptcy, swamped

with debts after the Constitutional Court last week ruled that he exceeded the legal funding limit during the 2012 presidential race.

That decision prevents the UMP from being reimbursed half its campaign expenses by the state. That means Sarkozy's party is left with an 11 million euro (\$14 million) bill, pushing its overall debt to more than 50 million euros.

The ruling has galvanized the party's followers. Cope announced that more than 2 million euros had been raised since the party launched an appeal for donations last week.

As soon as the Constitutional Council published its decision, Sarkozy announced in a statement that he would no longer serve in the court, so that he could regain his "freedom of speech." All former presidents are automatically designated members of the court, for life. □

Malaysian-flagged ship seized by Somali pirates sinks

ABDI GULED
Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — A hijacked Malaysian-flagged ship that pirates have held off the coast of Somalia since November 2010 sank in rough seas, the European Union Naval

Force said Monday, and a pirate commander said the ship had faced mechanical problems.

The European Union Naval Force said in a statement that the whereabouts of 15 crew members aboard the MV Albedo had not been

confirmed. However, Hassan Abdi — a pirate commander in Hobyo, a pirate stronghold along central Somalia's Indian Ocean coastline — told The Associated Press late Monday that at least six pirates and two crew members had

been killed.

He said two crew members also were rescued. It was not clear what had happened to the rest of the crew or what their nationalities were.

"We have rescued two foreign crews in the morning but our six comrades have unfortunately lost their lives," he said.

He said the ship had faced mechanical problems for months.

The EU naval force said that its maritime patrol aircraft have closed the sea area to search for any survivors. Piracy was a growing problem off the Somali coast, fuelled by poverty and

what some local people said was the need to stop international vessels from plundering fish stocks off Somalia.

But armed guards aboard cargo ships and an international naval armada complete with aircraft that carry out onshore raids have put a huge dent in Somali piracy.

Somali pirates hijacked 46 ships in 2009 and 47 in 2010, according to the EU Naval Force. In 2011, pirates launched a record number of attacks — 176 — but commandeered only 25 ships, an indication that new on-board defenses were working. □



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Pope Francis blasts indifference over migration deaths



Pope Francis salutes migrants during his visit to the island of Lampedusa, Italy, Monday, July 8, 2013.

(AP Photo/L'Osservatore Romano)

NICOLE WINFIELD

TRISHA THOMAS

Associated Press

LAMPEDUSA, Sicily (AP) —

Pope Francis on Monday denounced the "globalization of indifference" that greets migrants who risk their lives trying to reach Europe, as he traveled to the farthest reaches of Italy to draw attention to their plight and to mourn those who never made it.

The tiny Sicilian island of Lampedusa, a treeless, strip of rock nine kilometers (four miles) long, is closer to Africa than the Italian mainland and is the main port of entry into Europe for African migrants smuggled by boat from Libya or Tunisia.

Francis decided last week to make Lampedusa his first pastoral trip outside of Rome, compelled by a particularly deadly crossing in which a dozen migrants lost their lives. Despite the spur-of-the-moment decision, the island came through, building a makeshift lectern, pastoral staff and chalice out of recycled wood from shipwrecked migrant boats.

Francis greeted newly arrived Africans and during an open-air Mass on the island's soccer field, thanked the residents for

welcoming so many men and women over the years. But the core reason for the visit, he said, was to mourn those who died trying to make a better life for themselves and their families. He tossed a wreath of flowers into the sea in their memory, calling their deaths a "thorn in the heart" that occurs so often it is simply ignored.

"Who wept for these people who were aboard the boat?" Francis asked in his homily. "For the young mothers who brought their babies? For these men who wanted to support their families?"

"We are a society that has forgotten how to cry," he said.

Dozens of fishing boats accompanied Francis' coast guard ship as it pulled into port, a seaborne motorcade to honor the first pope to visit an island that often feels it has been abandoned by Europe to process the thousands of would-be immigrants who come ashore each year.

"Pope Francis, only you can save us," read a banner on one of the boats. "Welcome among the least," said a poster with an Argentine and Italian flag dangling from an apartment building.

As his plane was landing, a boat carrying some 160 Eritreans arrived in port, the latest in a new wave of migrants taking advantage of calm seas and warm weather to make the treacherous crossing. Officials said they were in good condition, just cold. Francis, whose ancestors immigrated to Argentina from Italy, has a special place in his heart for refugees: As archbishop of Buenos Aires, he denounced the exploitation of migrants as "slavery" and said those who did nothing to help them were complicit by their silence.

He repeated that message on Monday, railing against smugglers who take advantage of the poverty of migrants to enrich themselves. He challenged everyone to take responsibility for the migrants' desperation, urging them not

to have "anesthesia of the heart."

"The culture of our own well-being makes us insensitive to the cries of others," he said. "It brings us to feeling indifferent to others, to the globalization of indifference."

Then directing himself to the Muslims on the island, he said: "The church is with you in the search for a more dignified life for you and your families." □



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Brazil opens investigation into US spying

BRADLEY BROOKS

Associated Press

SAO PAULO (AP) — The Brazilian government began an investigation Monday into whether telecommunications firms operating in the country cooperated

Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff the nation would raise the issue at the 193-country U.N. International Telecommunications Union and also at the U.N. Commission on Human Rights since the “funda-

verify which Brazilian companies were involved or if they were aware their links were being used to collect the data. On Monday, O Globo reported that the U.S. had a significant data center in Brasilia for the



Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff speaks at the presidential palace in Brasilia, Brazil, Monday, July 8, 2013. The Brazilian government began an investigation Monday into whether telecommunications firms operating in the country cooperated with the U.S. as part of a spying program that has collected data on billions of telephone and email conversations.

(AP Photo/Eraldo Peres)

with the U.S. as part of a spying program that has collected data on billions of telephone and email conversations.

Anatel, the government agency that regulates the telecom sector in Brazil, said it's working with federal police and other government agencies on the investigation.

The O Globo newspaper reported this weekend that information released by the National Security Agency leaker Edward Snowden showed Brazil is the top target in Latin America for the NSA's massive intelligence-gathering effort aimed at monitoring communications around the world.

Brazil isn't alone in its concern; London-based advocacy group Privacy International filed lawsuit on Monday over alleged spying of internet and phone users in Britain. Earlier, official in Germany, France, Hong Kong and other nations lodged complaints.

mentals" of human rights include "freedom of expression and the right to privacy."

"If there was any involvement of other countries, of other businesses that aren't Brazilian, then it's certainly a violation of our sovereignty, without a doubt, just like it's a violation of human rights," Rousseff said. "Now, we have to look at things without pre-judgment, we have to investigate."

Brazilian regulator Anatel said in its statement that "it's worth clarifying that the confidentiality of data and telephone communications is a right guaranteed by the constitution, by our laws and by Anatel's regulations. Its violation is punishable in civil, criminal and administrative realms." The O Globo article said the NSA collected the data through an undefined association between U.S. and Brazilian telecommunications companies. It said it could not

collection of intercepted global satellite communications until at least 2002, based upon the Snowden document it's seen. The documents didn't indicate if that still exists.

Communications Minister Paulo Bernardo told reporters in Brasilia that he "has no doubt whatsoever" Brazilian citizens and institutions were spied upon.

"Even the European Parliament was monitored — you think that we weren't?" he said. "We have to verify the circumstances in which this occurred, the exact way and when."

Bernardo met Monday afternoon with U.S. Ambassador Thomas Shannon.

"He denied that there is such monitoring here in Brazil, he said that there never was a data center and that there is no agreement with Brazilian companies to collect data in Brazilian territory," Bernardo said afterward, according to the state-run Agencia Brasil news agency. □

Tropical Storm Chantal is heading to Lesser Antilles

GUY ELLIS

Associated Press

CASTRIES, St. Lucia (AP) —

St. Lucia shuttered schools and prepared to close the island's two airports while urging residents to finish preparations for the approach of strengthening Tropical Storm Chantal as it raced Monday toward the small islands of the Lesser Antilles.

The fast-moving storm's maximum sustained winds were near 50 mph (85 kph) Monday evening with some strengthening expected over the next two days. Chantal was centered about 320 miles (515 kilometers) east-southeast of Barbados and was moving west-northwest at 26 mph (43 kph).

The center of the tropical storm was expected to churn over the Atlantic and reach the small islands on the eastern rim of the Caribbean early Tuesday and then move into the Caribbean Sea, according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami.

Chantal could be near hurricane strength on Wednesday before it reaches Hispaniola, the island shared by the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Both countries are very vulnerable to flooding and landslides from storms, but widespread deforestation and ramshackle housing in Haiti mean even moderate rains pose a significant threat.

U.S. forecasters expect that wind shear and interaction with the mountains of Hispaniola and Cuba will cause Chantal to start weakening in about three days and it is expected to be a tropical depression Friday while over the Bahamas. In St. Lucia's capital of Castries, supermarkets stayed open late on Monday as islanders stocked up on emergency supplies including water and batteries.

The government was taking no chances earlier in the day, ordering a midday closure of all schools until Wednesday. The director of the local meteorological office warned that parts of

the island could potentially be impacted by landslides and flooding.

In a national address Monday evening, Prime Minister Kenny Anthony urged people to hunker down at home until the tropical storm had passed. A tropical storm warning was issued for St. Lucia, Barbados, Dominica, Puerto Rico and the French islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe. A tropical storm watch was in effect for St. Vincent, the U.S. Virgin Islands and parts of the southern coast of the Dominican Republic.

In Barbados, officials urged people to stay tuned to radio stations and prepare for the rapid approach of Chantal, the Atlantic season's third named storm.

"This is hurricane season so we urge Barbadians to be prepared," said Kerry Hinds, deputy director of the island's emergency management department. In Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, the U.S. Coast Guard urged all waterfront facilities to remove unsecured debris, hazardous material and pollutants from dockside areas. Pleasure craft operations were advised to seek safe harbor and secure their craft. The storm was expected to produce rain and strong winds in Puerto Rico, with gusts of up to 60 mph in southern and mountainous areas, according to Roberto Garcia, director of the National Weather Service on the island of less than 4 million inhabitants. Chantal was expected to pass more than 100 miles south of Puerto Rico early Wednesday. Meanwhile in the Pacific, Tropical Storm Erick was passing close to the southern portion of Mexico's Baja California peninsula, where a tropical storm warning is in effect. However, it is forecast to move away from the coast on Tuesday and is not expected to make landfall.

Erick's maximum sustained winds are near 45 mph (75 kph) with gradual weakening expected over the next 36 hours, when it is forecast to become a remnant. □



Wild weekend of events:

Hot action and tons of fun at Aruba Hi-Winds 2013



FISHERMENS HUTS - This past weekend saw the 4th and 5th days of the 2013 Aruba Hi-Winds, which has become one of the most highly attended and beloved events of the calendar here on Aruba.

On Saturday, the 4th day of the Aruba Hi-Winds, the wind left something to be desired in the morning hours, offering too little to continue with the Windsurfing Freestyle competition. The second part, the

Double Elimination, was cancelled for the day and postponed till Sunday. There was enough wind however to do the long distance Race for kites, which was an impressive sight with 50 men and



20 women starting in one group after the other. They went to a buoy near Arashi and back to the finish line off Eagle Beach. In the afternoon, two long

distance races were held for windsurfers and one more for kites.

Continued on Page 14



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Continued from Page 13

The day ended with the first ever Stand Up Paddling (SUP) race of the event, a warm up race for the final held on Sunday. Monique Meijer won in the Womens category, Ingmar Schnitzler in the Mens. Entertainment continued all evening, with Datapanik live on stage, followed by DJ Mr Ed D from Gusto. There also was the Night Kiting Show on the water. On Sunday, the 5th day of

the event, another long distance race for kilters was held in the morning. The wind was very strong and the Double Elimination of the Freestyle competition for windsurfers, which had been postponed from Saturday, was held in the morning. Results: King of the Huts: Kiri Thode (Bonaire), Prince of the Huts: Mathias Verploeg (Aruba) and Kid of the Huts: Bastiaan de Koningh (Bonaire). Two more long distance races for windsurfers and one for kilters were

held in the afternoon. In the late afternoon, a new discipline in Hi-Winds history was organized: Stand Up Paddling. The winner of the new event was Dennis Martinez. In the evening the last live bands played under the mega Hi-Winds tent: Mystical Connection and Honeypot. Monday evening was Awards Evening at Paseo Herencia, which also featured the first showing of the event movie, produced for the Aruba Hi-Winds 2013 event. □



Beauty On The Beach

Heather Ravelli

She is staying at the Renaissance Aruba Resort. It is her first visit and she mentioned it will not be her last, she will come back next year. What she loves the most of Aruba is the Friendliness of the locals.



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At Paradise Beach Villas: Aruba Tourism Authority honors Robert Stover and Christine Gandy



EAGLE BEACH - Recently Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring two very loyal and friendly visitors to Aruba. The honored are Robert P. Stover and Christine F. Gandy, residents of Orlando, Florida, as Distinguished Visitors, for coming to the island 10 years consecutively! The

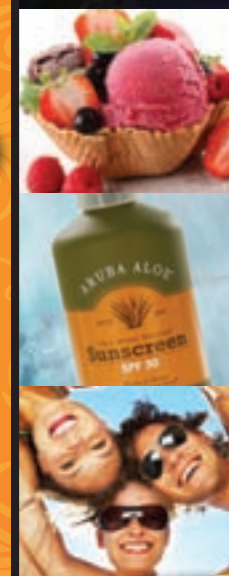
honorees are members of Paradise Beach Villas and have been enjoying the Island every year. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10 to 20 years consecutive. The main reasons why they

keep coming back to Aruba are the friendly people, the beaches, the beautiful weather, and the local food. The Certificate was presented by Darline S. de Cuba representing Aruba Tourism Authority and Milca Erasmus, Human Resources Mgr. at Paradise Beach Villas. □



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CASINO AND SHOPS

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The bingo progressive jackpot is currently worth more than \$35,000 and tickets for a chance to win that amazing jackpot are available for just \$1. The casino is always very busy for Sunday's Ladies' Night which awards 100 points to all ladies, actively playing with their Winner's Circle Card on slots, during the evening hours. Points are automatically loaded on the player's account and are available for immediate play. The casino also runs a variety of daily promotions such as Mystery Jackpot, granting \$250 jackpots to random players, and Double Points, Monday through Friday from 12 noon to 3pm and Saturday and Sunday from 4pm to 6pm. Any day, every day, patrons celebrating their birthdays receive \$5 Free Play and



a specialty drink, redeemable at The Casino Bar. The casino's spacious and comfortable Poker Room is open from 7:30pm to 4:00am, and offers cash games on demand. The

Poker Room also rewards players with points while they play. Every night at 2am, the "Best Hand of The Night" is singled out, and rewarded with \$100 in cash. Fridays feature the

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MURRAY MANIA

CHRIS LEHOURITES

AP Sports Writer

LONDON (AP) — Britain awoke to a new era on Monday, into a world in which the tennis-loving public finally has its own Wimbledon champion once again.

"After 77 years, the wait is over," headlined the Dai-



2013 Wimbledon Champion Andy Murray and his partner Kim Sears arrive for the Wimbledon Champions Dinner 2013, in London, Sunday, July 7, 2013.

(AP Photo/Jonathan Short)

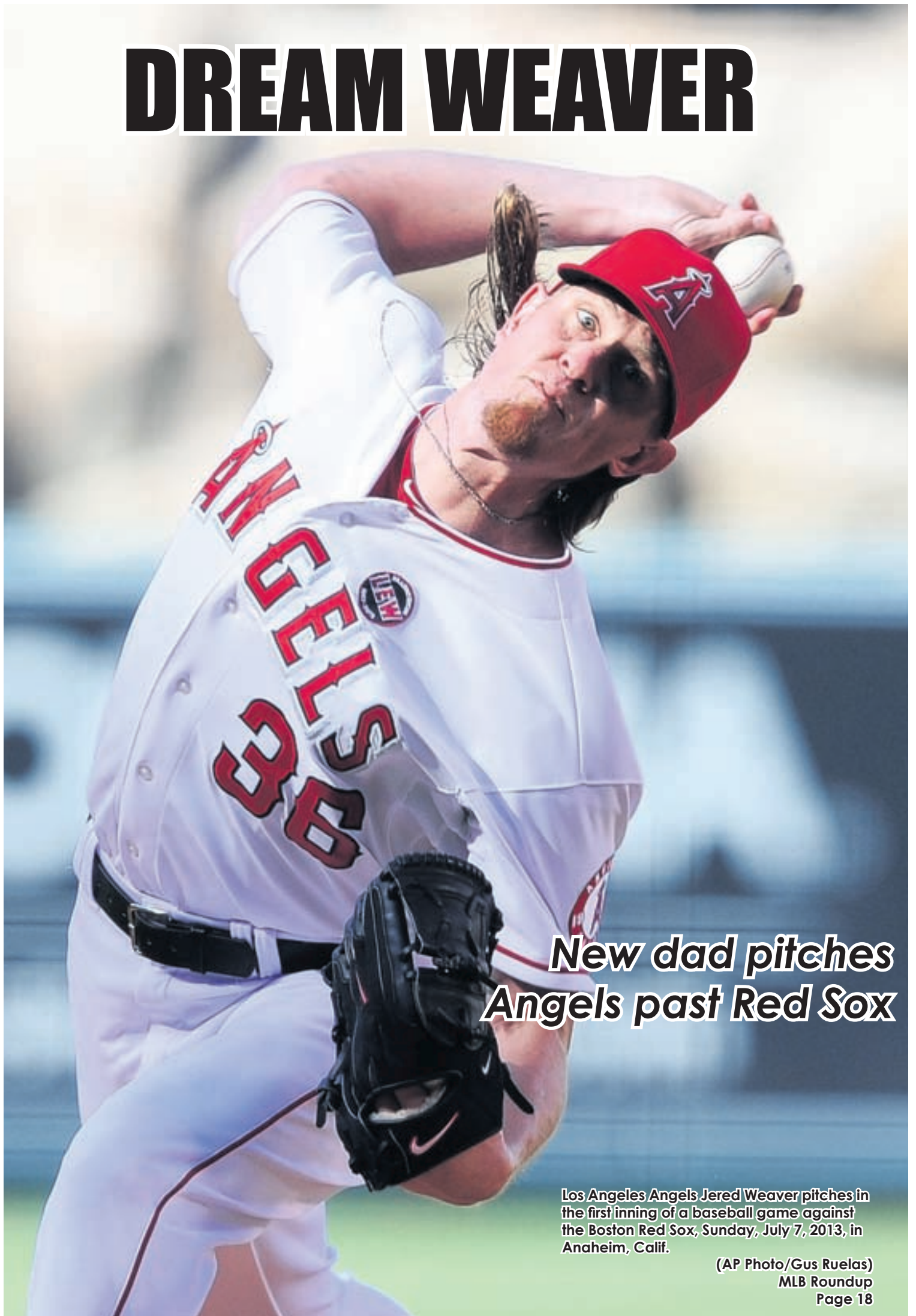
ly Telegraph, a day after Andy Murray beat Novak Djokovic in straight sets to win the men's title at the All England Club.

With the victory, Murray became the first British man to win the Wimbledon title since Fred Perry in 1936, a victory that has already sparked talk of a knighthood.

"Arise Sir Andrew, knight of the holy grail," The Times of London wrote in its lead story. "Impossibly, dreamily, unbelievably and yet somehow almost easily, somehow almost inevitably, Andy Murray won the Men's Singles final at Wimbledon yesterday."

Continued on Page 20

DREAM WEAVER



**New dad pitches
Angels past Red Sox**

Los Angeles Angels Jered Weaver pitches in the first inning of a baseball game against the Boston Red Sox, Sunday, July 7, 2013, in Anaheim, Calif.

(AP Photo/Gus Ruelas)
MLB Roundup
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MLB Roundup

Los Angeles Angels pitcher Jered Weaver celebrated his first start since becoming a father by combining with three relievers to shut out the Boston Red Sox 3-0 on Sunday.

Boston's lead atop the AL East division was trimmed to 4-1/2 games ahead of Baltimore, which beat New York to send the Yankees down to fourth in the division, below in-form Tampa Bay.

In other game, Cleveland ended a run of seven straight defeats by Detroit, while Oakland hit three homers in the win over Kansas City.

Newly-chosen All-Star Domonic Brown starred in Philadelphia's win over Atlanta, the Chicago Cubs edged Pittsburgh in 11 innings, and Arizona completed a three-game sweep of Colorado.

The Angels made it 10 wins from 12 games thanks chiefly to Weaver (3-4), who struck out six in 6 2-3 innings. It was his first outing since becoming a father on Friday, when he named his first child Aden David Weaver in honor of his late teammate and friend Nick Adenhardt.

Weaver beat former teammate John Lackey (6-6), whose three-game winning streak ended.

Baltimore's Adam Jones hit a two-run homer off Mariano Rivera in the ninth inning to give the Orioles a 2-1 win over New York, ending the Yankees' longest winning streak of the season at six games.

It was Rivera's second blown save in 31 chances this year. Baseball's career saves leader had converted 41 tries in a row at home since the start of the 2011 season.

Hiroki Kuroda pitched seven scoreless innings for the Yankees, but they were unable to finish off a three-game sweep after Baltimore took all three games from them at Camden Yards last weekend.

Cleveland's Michael Brantley hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning to lift the Indians to a 9-6 win over Detroit.

Brantley hit a solo homer in

the sixth and had a career-high five RBIs. He drove a pitch from Al Albuquerque (1-2) over the wall in right as the Indians recovered after their bullpen blew a five-run lead.

Oakland's Josh Reddick homered and drove in four runs, while Jed Lowrie and Eric Sogard also went deep as the A's overpowered Kansas City 10-4.

A.J. Griffin (7-6) rebounded from a miserable start against the Cubs to go five innings for the A's.

Philadelphia's Domonic Brown homered, tripled and drove in two runs as the Phillies downed Atlanta 7-3.

Ben Revere hit a two-run triple for Philadelphia, which took two of three from the NL East leaders.

Chicago pinch-hitter Dioner Navarro lifted a game-ending sacrifice fly in the 11th inning, sending the Cubs to a 4-3 win over Pittsburgh.

Anthony Rizzo and Alfonso Soriano singled in the Cubs' 11th, and both advanced when Pirates catcher Russell Martin's attempted pickoff at second went into center field.

After an intentional walk, Navarro's fly ball off Bryan

Morris (4-3) brought in the winner.

The Pirates dropped into a tie with St. Louis for the NL Central lead and the best record in the majors.

Arizona's Patrick Corbin

10 in his seventh attempt at win No. 10. He also hit an RBI double as the Diamondbacks completed a three-game sweep in which they outscored the Rockies 22-2.

pitched seven efficient innings and Nick Franklin and Justin Smoak each homered to lift the Mariners over Cincinnati 3-1.

Washington's Ryan Zimmerman hit a grand slam



Baltimore Orioles Adam Jones hits a ninth-inning, two-run home run off New York Yankees relief pitcher Mariano Rivera in the Orioles 2-1 victory over the Yankees in a baseball game Sunday, July 7, 2013, in New York.

(AP Photo/Kathy Willens)

gave up went eight innings to finally get his 10th victory as the Diamondbacks beat Colorado 6-1.

Corbin (10-1) struck out

Colorado also lost starting pitcher Roy Oswalt and star outfielder Carlos Gonzalez to injuries.

Seattle's Joe Saunders

while Bryce Harper added three hits and two stolen bases to lead the Nationals to an 11-7 win over San Diego. □

Bobblehead giveaway to precede Jeter return

DAVID WALDSTEIN
© 2013 New York Times

New York Yankees catcher Chris Stewart has a collection of baseball memorabilia in a special room in his house, replete with autographed jerseys, caps, bats and other items, including bobblehead dolls. Lots of bobblehead dolls.

It is a collection that Stewart has cultivated for years, and one he cherishes. But it has been relatively incomplete so far, wanting for that one signature figurine to make it whole.

"Got to get that Derek Jeter bobblehead," Stewart said about Monday night's giveaway for the first 18,000 fans.

Stewart, like his teammates, has been waiting for the day when a healthy Jeter returns to the clubhouse, his broken ankle healed. But for now, the spring-loaded ceramic

version of Jeter will have to do because it will be at least a few days before Jeter is ready to play at the major league level.



New York Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter smiles to the fans during his rehab baseball game with the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders against the Lehigh Valley IronPigs on Sunday, July 7, 2013, in Moosic, Pa.

(AP Photo/Butch Comegys)

For the first time in 10 years, the Yankees are handing out bobblehead dolls, and they are starting with one of the most beloved Yankees. Many of Jeter's

teammates, like Vernon Wells and the relievers Shawn Kelley and Adam Warren, say they plan to be in line for the bobble-

ordered by family members to secure them.

"I've been told to get that one," Wells said.

Kelley said: "I always try to get them when teams give them out. I put them in the basement, and my son tears their heads off. But maybe not with the Jeter bobblehead."

Later this month, the Yankees will distribute a Hideki Matsui bobblehead, followed by a Yogi Berra doll in August and a Mariano Rivera version in September.

The last time the Yankees handed out bobbleheads was in 2003, when fans were able to take home likenesses of Matsui, Jason Giambi and Paul O'Neill.

There is no bobblehead giveaway planned for Alex Rodriguez, who, like Jeter, has not played in a major league game this year because of injury. □

John Daly ejects from British Open with elbow injury

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

John Daly withdrew from the British Open on Monday because he will have surgery on his right elbow this week that will end his PGA Tour season.

Daly said he first noticed something wrong with his right elbow at the Byron Nelson Championship in May, and tests revealed a torn tendon. He said doctors told him he could try to play as long as he didn't hit a rock or a tree root.

"And that's what happened on the 12th hole Friday at Greenbrier," Daly said. "I was just trying to chip out and there was a root under the ball. It wasn't more than 50-yard chip shot. But that's the pain I've been dealing with."

He was replaced in the British Open by Stephen Gallacher of Scotland. The Open is July 18-21 at Muirfield.

Daly says he is scheduled for surgery Thursday morning. He said doctors told him he could start rehabilitation in early September, and if everything went well, he could return to golf in the late fall.

This will be the first time Daly, 47, has missed the British Open since 1999 at Carnoustie.

The surgery means he will not play in the only two majors for which Daly is eligible — the British Open and the PGA Championship as a past champion of both. Daly won the 1991 PGA at Crooked Stick as the ninth alternate, and he won the Open in 1995 at St. Andrews in a playoff over Costantino Rocca.

"I hate missing the British Open, especially at Muirfield. It's one of the best on the planet," Daly said.

Daly has not had a full PGA Tour card since 2006. A year ago, he put together three finishes in the top 20 — including a tie for fifth in the Reno-Tahoe Open — during a stretch of seven straight tournaments. He had a chance of earning his card until an 86-77 on the weekend at Las Vegas and missed cuts in his last two events. □

Senators lose star, acquire star in NHL's busy day

LARRY LAGE
AP Hockey Writer

Daniel Alfredsson bolted from the Ottawa Senators to sign with the Detroit Red Wings, sensing that was the best move he could make



Longtime player Daniel Alfredsson bolted from the Ottawa Senators to sign with the Detroit Red Wings for one season.

(AP Photo)

Iginla signed a one-year deal with the Eastern Conference champion Boston Bruins on Friday night. The longtime Calgary Flames and short-time Pittsburgh Penguins forward will make

Ryan from the Anaheim Ducks.

NHL teams made a big splash on the first day of free agency with a slew of signings and some trades. Less than a year after the league's latest lockout, many teams spent a lot of money on free agents despite knowing they will have to deal with a smaller salary cap next season.

The Columbus Blue Jackets were among the big spenders, signing Nathan Horton to a \$37.1 million, seven-year contract.

Detroit, like Columbus, is heading to the Eastern Conference next season. The Red Wings made moves to try to extend their postseason streak to 23 seasons and reach the Stanley Cup finals for the first time since 2009.

Soon after adding Alfredsson, the Red Wings agreed to terms on a \$24.5 million, five-year contract with 30-year-old center Stephen Weiss.

The Toronto Maple Leafs, coming off their first post-season appearance since 2004, also made a statement by signing New Jersey Devils forward David Clarkson to a \$36.75 million, seven-year deal and keeping first-line center Tyler Bozak with a \$21 million, five-year deal.

Tampa Bay, which cleared salary cap by buying out 33-year-old Vincent Lecavalier, agreed to a \$25 million, five-year deal with Valtteri Filppula to essentially replace its captain.

While the Red Wings were ready to lose Filppula, Ottawa wasn't expecting Alfredsson to tell the front office he wanted to play elsewhere.

"It was a devastating conversation, a disappointing one, hard to swallow," Senators general manager Bryan Murray acknowledged. "But I understand a veteran player that hasn't won and wants to win and sees a better opportunity." □

Froome to be offered more protection in Tour bid

JEROME PUGMIRE
AP Sports Writer

SAINT-NAZAIRE, France
(AP) — Chris Froome's Sky team manager vows the star rider will never be left exposed again in his bid to win the Tour de France for the first time.

Froome successfully defended the yellow jersey on a ferociously tough mountain stage on Sunday and will wear it when the race resumes for Stage 10 on Tuesday following a rest day.

The fact Froome had to defend the jersey alone on Sunday's ninth stage — because all of his teammates had been left behind — offers hope to rivals like two-time champion Alberto Contador and Andy Schleck that Sky may be vulnerable. If they can isolate Froome again further on in the race, he will be more tired and may not be able to respond.

"We've learnt some lessons, valuable lessons, to take into the rest of the race," Sky manager Dave Brailsford said Monday.

"But I'm not going to spell it out. I'm not going to go into the details of the changes we're going to make." Froome's key teammate is Richie Porte, a 28-year-old Australian who won the Paris-Nice stage race in March. He was unable to help Froome on Stage 9 and badly wants to make amends.

"It was absolute war," he said. "Am I going to have another bad day like that? I hope not."

Contador, the Tour winner in 2007 and '09 who was stripped of his title the following year for doping, is already looking ahead to getting another crack at Froome in the mountains on Sunday. "I will try and do something," Contador said. "If you don't think you can succeed then you never will. So we have to take a few risks."

Sunday's 15th stage is the next big climbing trek and features a 20.8-kilometer (12.9-mile) ascent up to Mont Ventoux. A few days later, riders face three straight days of mountain

torture in the high Alps.

"Throughout my career I've found my best form in the third week," the 30-year-old Contador said.

The Spaniard takes heart from winning the Spanish Vuelta last year, a race

ning on fumes. I was in survival mode," Froome said. "If people want to make comparisons that's up to them, but I don't feel I was at my best."

Rather than looking back, Contador should focus on



Overall leader Christopher Froome of Britain, center with yellow helmet, rides with his teammates during a training on the rest day of the Tour de France cycling race in La Baule, western France, Monday July 8 2013.

(AP Photo/Laurent Cipriani)

in which Froome finished about 10 minutes behind in fourth overall.

"People can speculate and look at my previous performances however they like, but I look at that Vuelta in that I was run-

the immediate future — notably Wednesday's time trial.

"It's a very flat time trial and that is a disadvantage for me," Contador said about the 33-kilometer (20.5-mile) circuit. □

Brits awake to new tennis era with Murray win



British Prime Minister David Cameron, left, meets Wimbledon winner Andy Murray in front of No 10 Downing Street in London, Monday, July 8, 2013. Murray is the first Briton to win the men's singles title for 77 years.

(AP Photo/Frank Augstein)

Continued from Page 17

Murray beat Djokovic 6-4, 7-5, 6-4 on a warm day under the sun at Centre Court, playing his usual defensive style almost perfectly against an opponent who also plays often-spectacular defensive tennis.

Prime Minister David Cameron, who watched the match from the Royal Box, seemed to be on board with Murray getting knighted and joining the ranks of other sporting greats such as Roger Bannister, Nick Faldo and Kelly Holmes. "I can't think of anyone who deserves one more," Cameron said.

Murray, however, quickly downplayed the possibility. "It's a nice thing to have or be offered," the 2013 Wimbledon champion said. "I think just because everyone's waited for such a long time for this, that's probably why it will be suggested but I don't know if it merits that."

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the national papers — all of them — featured Murray on their front pages.

"History in his hands," headlined the Daily Mirror. Across the top of the Daily Express were the words "Magical Murray."

The Guardian had the simplest front page — a huge photo of Murray kissing the

trophy with "Champion" written across the bottom. According to the BBC, a peak of 17.3 million people in Britain watched the match on television. Last year's final, in which Murray lost to Roger Federer, reached a peak of 17 million.

Britain has been waiting generations for a men's

champion (the last women's champion was Virginia Wade in 1977). But the expectations have been increasing almost exponentially over the last 15 years or so. That's when Tim Henman made the first of his four semifinals, sending the public into a frenzy of hope from 1998 to 2002. But each time, Henman

failed to reach the final.

A few years later, along came Murray, a kid from Scotland with a game to be reckoned with. With his mother in his box and his face often gripped in growls and grimaces, Murray became the next big British hope.

He made the semifinals three years in a row before reaching the 2012 final, but then lost to seven-time champion Federer.

A loss that may have changed him for the better, forever.

He followed that disappointing defeat with the Olympic gold medal, beating Federer on the same Wimbledon court, on the same Wimbledon grass, a few weeks later.

Then he beat Djokovic in the U.S. Open final, winning his first major title and the first Grand Slam singles title for a British man since Perry won the U.S. championships in 1936, the same year he won the third of his three straight Wimbledon titles.

With last year's wins and losses behind him, Murray didn't let his second chance at his home Grand Slam slip away this time. □

Murray wants more majors, not No. 1 rank

H. FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

LONDON (AP) — Andy Murray won Wimbledon, of course, the first British man in 77 years to do it. He won last year's U.S. Open, too. And an Olympic gold medal. Yet he still sits at No. 2 in the ATP rankings. That's all fine by him.

A day after his historic victory at the All England Club, Murray said he is far more interested in winning additional Grand Slam titles than reaching No. 1. He has played in the finals of the last four major tournaments he entered.

Asked Monday if moving up to the top spot is his next goal, Murray replied: "I don't know. It's a tough one for me, because right now I've won two Slams and ... and (won) the Olympic gold, and I'm nowhere near being No. 1. I don't know exactly why that is."

He noted that perhaps he needs "to be more consistent in the other events," and is aware that skipping this year's French Open because of a bad back did not help his ranking points.

But Murray added that he'd be OK with never reaching No. 1.

"I would rather not get to No. 1 and win more Grand Slams," he said, "than never win another Grand Slam and get to No. 1. I'd rather try to win more Slams."

He narrowed the gap in the standings but still trails top-ranked Novak Djokovic, the man Murray beat 6-4, 7-5, 6-4 for the championship Sunday. The last British man to win Wimbledon was Fred Perry in 1936. On Monday, Murray awoke after about an hour or so of sleep to fulfill media obligations, including posing for photos near the statue of Perry that stands outside Centre Court.

Pictures of Murray graced the front pages of British newspapers Monday, and there's already buzz building about whether he will be granted knighthood. □



Shirley and Roy Erskine, grandparents of Andy Murray, pose with the morning newspapers Monday July 8, 2013 at their home in Dunblane, Scotland after their grandson's Wimbledon victory on Centre Court on Sunday. Murray ended Britain's 77-year wait for a Wimbledon men's singles tennis champion with a 6-4 7-5 6-4 victory over Novak Djokovic.

(AP Photo/Andrew Milligan, PA)

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NCAA: A changing game, on screen and in court

CHRIS SUELLENTROP

© 2013 New York Times

Sometime this summer, a federal judge in California is expected to decide if a lawsuit brought by current and former college athletes against the NCAA can be certified as a class action. Should the judge rule that the suit can proceed, the big business of college sports could face a jury trial in 2014 with potential damages that could reach billions of dollars.

And video games are mainly to blame. The lawsuit, itself a consolidation of several cases, has expanded beyond its origins into the bigger question of whether athletes at major universities should receive a portion of the money cascading into college sports from TV networks like ESPN.

But it began with video games, as a dispute among the athletes, the NCAA and the video game studio Electronic Arts over whether players deserve to be paid for the use of their likenesses in games like NCAA Football 14 from EA Sports, which is being released Tuesday.

I don't pretend to understand the legal issues involved, whether you own the rights to a movie about your life story (experts say you don't) or the rights to a video game about your career as a star quarterback for the Notre Dame Fighting Irish. If former college athletes like Ed O'Bannon, Sam Keller, Bill Russell and Oscar Robertson - all of whom are plaintiffs in the suit - are owed money from the NCAA or EA, then I think they should get every cent they deserve. But if games like NCAA Football 14 - not to mention actual

college football and basketball - are irrevocably altered by the fallout from this lawsuit, it's worth taking time to honor the creative achievement that, er, kicked off the legal battle. What sports games have accomplished since the blips in Pong's electronic rendition of table tennis is

simulated team and player - who are represented by their real-world positions and numbers but not their names - are released each year, sports bloggers immediately begin engaging in the fine-grained analytical kvetching that makes up most sports commentary.

All of this work - animation, acting, computer programming, player evaluation and more - is done in the service of narrative. Even if gamers, and perhaps the designers, don't realize it. "Sports games are story engines," the video game producer Peter Garcin said in March at the

graduate). Those consequences, just like the ones in genuine NCAA games, generate elation, loss, frustration, tragedy - in a word, drama.

(BEGIN OPTIONAL TRIM.)

The most underappreciated narrative device in these games, Garcin argued, is their use of dia-



In an undated handout photo, the Florida State University Seminoles (in red) take on the University of Miami Hurricanes in a screenshot from the new EA Sports NCAA Football 14 video game. The big business of college sports may change because of a pending lawsuit brought by current and former college athletes against the NCAA, with video games like EA's NCAA Football mainly to blame.

(EA Sports via The New York Times)

remarkable. They are now the closest thing in the medium of video games to nonfiction storytelling.

Like its predecessors, NCAA Football 14 painstakingly recreates the details of big-time college football, from stadiums to playbooks to fight songs. A YouTube video of every uniform option for the 126 teams in the game - representing each team in the Football Bowl Subdivision, from Air Force to Wyoming - takes 35 minutes to watch. When the game's rankings of each

The games mirror ESPN broadcasts, complete with analysts Brad Nessler and Kirk Herbstreit, a half-time show sponsored by Nissan and in-game updates from the studio host Rece Davis on the results of other, computer-simulated games that are occurring at the same time as the one you're playing. Naturally, you can watch highlights from the most closely fought contests, which - like their corporeal counterparts - are deemed "ESPN Instant Classics."

Game Developers Conference in San Francisco. Garcin, who works for at HB Studios in Canada, has been credited with work on Electronic Arts titles like FIFA Soccer and NBA Live. These video games are powerful because of the way they connect player actions (whether your team scores at the last minute) to irreversible consequences for in-game characters (whether the players on your team make a season-ending bowl game before they

logue. Those virtual ESPN commentators are sophisticated, artificially intelligent characters. They're not perfect by any means, even by the somewhat meager standards of television sports analysis, but they're better at what they do - uttering contextually appropriate remarks to enhance emotional engagement - than their equivalents in any nonsports video game. (The narration in Bastion, released by Super-giant Games in 2011, may be the nearest rival.) □

Clifford Column:

Why healthy eaters still fall for the french fries

STEPHANIE CLIFFORD

© 2013 New York Times

Connor Moran, a limit-the-red-meat, increase-the-greens, eat-salad-for-lunch kind of guy, recently stopped into a Bronx Dunkin' Donuts for his usual black coffee, no sugar, no cream.

He walked out with a sandwich of egg and bacon between two halves of a glazed doughnut.

Such is the puzzle of the food industry: American consumers, even otherwise healthy ones, keep choosing caloric indulgences rather than healthy foods at fast-food restaurants.

Public health officials have been pushing fast-food restaurants to offer more nutritious foods to help combat excess weight in the United States, where more than one-third of American adults are obese. And restaurants have obliged by adding healthy menu items. But it's the sugary, fatty items that are flying - or waddling - out the door. The new menu items added by fast-food chains this year indicate as much: a brownie-batter-filled doughnut (Dunkin' Donuts), a bacon habanero

ranch Quarter Pounder (McDonald's), bacon-filled tater tots (Burger King), a six-slices-of-bacon-and-cheese burger (Carl's Jr. and Hardee's), a choco-covered pretzel and choco chunk vanilla Blizzard (Dairy Queen), and a chocolate molten lava



American consumers, even otherwise healthy ones, keep choosing caloric indulgences rather than healthy foods at fast-food restaurants. (Handout Photo)

cake (Arby's).

Then there's the Glazed Donut Breakfast Sandwich from Dunkin' Donuts that Moran tried. It was rolled out nationally this month after a Massachusetts test that was a "viral hit," the company's executive chef told The Boston Globe ear-

lier this month. "Within days of the test, people were sending pictures, tweeting 'look what I got!' or 'this is so wrong!' and it was just incredible."

If unhealthy food is wrong, restaurant visitors apparently don't want to be right.

McDonald's chief executive officer, Donald Thompson, said recently that although the chain had devoted one-sixth of its advertising time to salads, they make up 2 to 3 percent of sales, and don't drive growth. Perhaps it would make more sense

to give consumers vegetables by stuffing them inside McWraps, Thompson said.

And while restaurants try lower-calorie options - an egg-white sandwich here, a turkey burger there - the unhealthy stuff is "what consumers order - it's, quite frankly, on them," said Darren Tristano, executive vice president at Technomic, a food-industry consulting firm.

Gavan J. Fitzsimons, a professor who studies consumer psychology at Duke's Fuqua School of Business, has researched the disconnect.

In studies, he has presented participants with a range of menu choices - sometimes just unhealthy items, sometimes neutral items (like a fish sandwich) and sometimes healthy choices like salad. It turned out that including a healthy option did change people's behavior - by making them eat more unhealthily.

"When you put a healthy option up there on an otherwise unhealthy menu, not only do we not pick it, but its presence on the menu leads us to swing over and pick something that's worse for us than we

normally would," Fitzsimons said.

Why? Fitzsimons called the phenomenon "vicarious goal fulfillment." By seeing a healthy menu option at a restaurant, "it basically satisfies that goal to be healthy," he said, and gives consumers leeway to order what they want.

And health-conscious eaters are the most susceptible to picking unhealthy items when the menu also has healthy ones. "It's often the ones raising their hands, saying they would pick the salad, those are the ones that are the most at risk when they walk in," he said.

The road to hell may be paved with good intentions, but so, apparently, is the road to high cholesterol.

It's a conflict the Nobel-winning economist Thomas C. Schelling described in his book "Choice and Consequence": "People behave sometimes as if they had two selves, one who wants clean lungs and long life and another who adores tobacco, or one who wants a lean body and another who wants dessert," he wrote. □

Test of clot-busting procedure shows promise in strokes

Anita Hassan

© 2012 Houston Chronicle

Enrique Chapa lay in a hospital emergency room bed about a month ago, disoriented, unable to speak and barely able to move. Paramedics had just rushed in the 75-year-old retired truck driver, who suffered a major stroke in his home.

His wife and son sat outside his room in Memorial Hermann Hospital in the Texas Medical Center, on the brink of making what needed to be a quick decision that could help Chapa's recovery, as well as countless other future patients.

Physicians had just told them about an experimental study that could give Chapa access to a treatment that potentially could

better dissolve the blood clot in his brain and lessen his chance of a long-term disability. They would need their permission to try it on him. Another element: The study is a randomized, double-blinded and placebo-controlled trial, meaning they wouldn't know if Chapa received the experimental portion of the treatment until the trial is complete.

The family weighed its options, asked to see the device and prayed. "I told them, OK, let's do it," his son, Michael Chapa, said. With that green light, Chapa became the world's first stroke patient to participate in a pivotal phase III clinical trial for the treatment of ischemic strokes, or strokes in which blood clots occur. The therapy involves

using a device that delivers ultrasound energy to the brain in combination with a blood clot-busting medication. That drug is currently the only approved treatment for stroke patients. "If the device is better than no device, then presumably if there's an effect and it helps more patients achieve full recovery from their stroke, then the (Food and Drug Administration) may approve the device for stroke treatment," said Dr. Andrew Barreto, assistant professor of neurology in the stroke division at University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, one of 60 sites worldwide recruiting patients for the trial. "Then we would have our second-approved stroke treatment." Hands-free head frame

The device, called the ClotBust-ER, is a hands-free head frame, worn like a helmet, that delivers ultrasound waves through the skull and to the brain using 16 probes, focusing on areas where blood clots are most likely to occur. Barreto, who is also the North American principal investigator on the study, said the waves can open up the blood clot and allow more of the drug to get into the clot, restoring blood flow more quickly and potentially reducing damage.

Earlier research using ultrasound technology was done with a single-hand device that required extensive medical training. The latest design can easily be administered in any emergency room across the country.

The clinical trial will require a total of 830 patients and take about 2½ years. Previous research using the device was sponsored by the National Institutes of Health. The current trial is sponsored by Cerevast Therapeutics, which used some technology licensed from UTHealth to design and develop the device. Currently, the medication, Tissue Plasminogen Activator or tPA, is the only approved treatment for ischemic stroke. While the drug works well, it does not have as much benefit to those with large blood clots and can cause some brain bleeding, Barreto said.

"So we're adding additional treatments to tPA in the hope that we can amplify the affect of tPA," he said. □

Geek Notes:

Tech accessory advice for your everyday gadgets and devices

© 2013 New York Times
New tech accessories roll off the assembly line every day. Our writers review some of the latest products with the gamer and the gadget-lover in mind.

GAMERS CHOICE

Computers for gamers need fast processors and sharp screens to make the most of the complex graphics that depict other worlds. That usually means the machines are big, run hot and require noisy cooling fans.

Razer's new Blade gamer's laptop breaks the mold. It is just under 14 inches wide, about 9 inches deep and two-thirds of an inch thick, weighing 4 pounds. It runs almost silently but it gets hot enough that you won't want it in your lap during extended play.

When running graphics at the highest quality in a test, there were no freezes (after updating the drivers), no crashes and the motion was smooth.

The graphics are powered by a fourth-generation Intel Core Haswell chip with an integrated HD6400 graphics processor that works with an Nvidia GeForce GTX graphics card to keep the motion fluid. It comes configured with 8 gigabytes of RAM and a solid-state hard drive of either 128 gigabytes (\$1,800), 256 gigs (\$2,000), or 512 gigs (\$2,300).

That kind of power is good for editing graphics, too.

The Blade's screen is HD Plus, or 900 lines of resolution horizontally, not 1080p. That was a conscious decision by Razer, said a spokesman, because a Windows 8 desktop won't scale to 1080p.

The Blade has built-in speakers, but they're weak. Try a more powerful pair or a headset.

- ROY FURCHGOTT

LOUDNESS TO SPARE

Just in time to annoy the people on the neighbor-

ing beach blanket, Ultimate Ears has produced the aptly named Boom, a Bluetooth sound dock that is compact and loud.

The cylindrical Boom, at about 3 inches in circumference and 7 inches tall, is a bit larger than a can and a half of Red Bull.

It weighs about 19 ounces - about the same as two Red Bulls.

What's remarkable about the Boom is how much sound it can produce. Played in a room roughly 10 feet square, it was almost overwhelming. The quality of the sound, however, was less remarkable. While it was loud and free of distortion, it was also indistinct. There were no notable highs or lows, with a general lack of clarity.

The reason could be - at least partly - that the left and right speakers are close together. Although Ultimate Ears advertises



An undated handout photo of the Razer Blade laptop. The Blade, about 14 inches wide, 9 inches deep and only two-thirds of an inch thick, runs complex game graphics with ease.
(Handout via The New York Times)

(and increase the bass).

The Bluetooth was easy to connect, and the Boom signals, with a whimsical bongo beat, when it is on or off and that it's connected to another device. It also has an oversize plus

IMPACT PROTECTION

Tech21 has confidence in its smartphone cases, so much so that it trademarked Impactology, its term for "the science of protection."



An undated handout photo of the Ultimate Ears Boom. The Boom is a Bluetooth sound dock that is compact and loud.

(Handout via The New York Times)

"360-degree sound," it doesn't say stereo sound. Listeners can get true stereo by linking two Booms to one phone or tablet, set up so one Boom plays the left channel, the other the right. But at \$200 each, that is an expensive solution. Try putting one Boom on the floor in a corner so the reflections off the walls improve the stereo effect

and minus on the side, so you know what to press when the neighbors are yelling to turn it down. The Boom claims 15 hours of battery life with its rechargeable lithium ion battery. It is water-resistant but not submersible, and is available in black, blue, olive green, pink, red and white.

- ROY FURCHGOTT

But Impactology is more smart innovation than gimmick.

The cases made by Tech21, a company based in London, contain a polymer material called D30 that protects devices by absorbing and redirecting the force of an impact. Impactology is available in two cases, the Impact Mesh and the Impact

Band for the iPhone 5, both available at Apple stores in the United States.

The cases have a slim design that is easy to grip and provides access to all buttons and ports. The Impact Band case, which costs \$30, is a bumper that fits around a smartphone, though a separate hard plastic back makes an awkward fit.

Much more accommodating is the \$35 Impact Mesh case, which has a back made of flexible plastic. The one-piece design makes the case easier to use and provides better protection.

Both cases have a raised bezel that provides ample screen protection. Tech21 also makes Impact Shield, a \$35 multilayered screen protector doesn't adhere well to the phone's screen. Tech21 also makes cases for a wide variety of other mobile devices.

A lot of case manufacturers assert that their products can protect the phone from a knock or drop, but I'm always reluctant to test those claims. With my iPhone encased in Impactology ware, I was gleefully showing off to my co-workers by rapping the phone on my desktop and tossing it to the floor.

- GREGORY SCHMIDT

US markets gain ahead of corporate earnings kickoff

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Cautious optimism over corporate earnings sent the stock market higher Monday.

and Wells Fargo. Analysts predict that earnings growth for companies in the Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 3 percent in the second quarter. While

growth is predicted to fall 0.3 percent in the second quarter. "We'll be looking to see where revenue comes in," said Jim Dunigan, an ex-

through-June quarter. That compared with a loss of \$2 million, or break-even on a per-share basis, a year earlier.

Alcoa fell 5 cents, or 0.6 percent, to \$7.87 in after-hours trading.

The Dow rose 88.85 points, or 0.6 percent, to close at 15,224.69. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 8.57 points, or 0.5 percent, to end at 1,640.46.

Dell was among the big gainers in the S&P 500 index. An advisory firm recommended that company shareholders support a plan to take the computer company private. Founder Michael Dell and Silver Lake Partners have offered to buy Dell for \$24.4 billion, or \$13.65 a share. Dell rose 41 cents, or 3.1 percent, to \$13.44.

The Russell 2000 index, an index of small-company stocks, closed at an all-time high 1,009.25. The index past the 1,000 mark for the first time Friday and has gained 18.8 percent this year, a sign that investors are more willing to take on risk.

In other trading, the Nasdaq composite rose 5.45, or 0.2 percent, to 3,484.83, the smallest gain of the major indexes.

The index was weighed

down by a slump in Intel. The chipmaker fell after a Citigroup analyst wrote that weak PC sales and waning demand for smartphones would stunt the company's growth. Intel, which makes up 2.2 percent of the Nasdaq, fell 88 cents, or 3.6 percent, to \$23.18.

Other chipmakers also declined. Qualcomm dropped 96 cents, or 1.6 percent, to \$59.99.

In government bond trading, the yield on the 10-year government note pulled back from a two-year high of 2.74 Friday. It fell to 2.64 percent on Monday.

The yield had jumped after the government reported strong U.S. hiring for June on Friday. Investors believe that the improving jobs market will prompt the Federal Reserve to ease back on its bond-buying program.

The Fed is buying \$85 billion in bonds each month to keep interest rates low and spur borrowing and investing.

For the first five months of the year stocks moved higher, supported by the backdrop of low interest rates, a recovering housing market and increased hiring. The S&P 500 index gained 17 percent by May 21 and stood at a record 1,669.

But the stock market pulled back when Fed chairman Ben Bernanke said that the central bank might consider easing its stimulus.

The S&P 500 dropped as low as 1,573 on June 24, about 5.7 percent below its record close.

Since then stocks have gradually recouped losses as investors appear to be getting more comfortable with higher interest rates.

"Interest rates, even though they've risen, are still incredibly low," said Brent Schutte, a market strategist at BMO Private Bank. "Right now, increases in rates are a good thing because it means the economy is doing a little bit better."

The rising rates are still making bond investors nervous though. □



Trader Kevin Coulter works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Monday, July 8, 2013. Stocks rose in trading Monday ahead of the start of second-quarter corporate earnings reports. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

U.S. companies start reporting their second-quarter results this week, led by aluminum producer Alcoa, the first company in the Dow Jones industrial average to announce results. Other major companies reporting include JPMorgan

growth is down from 5 percent in the first quarter, earnings are still expected to reach record levels. Investors and traders will search for evidence that companies are increasing revenues, not just cutting costs to boost profits. Sales

ecutive vice president of investments at PNC.

After the market closed Monday, Alcoa reported a wider second-quarter loss due to weak aluminum prices.

Alcoa lost \$119 million, or 11 cents per share, in the April-

Firm recommends vote for Dell founder's offer

NEW YORK (AP) — A top proxy advisory firm is recommending that Dell shareholders vote in favor of a deal that would allow the company's founder and an investment firm to buy the computer maker and take it private.

Michael Dell and Silver Lake Partners have offered to buy Round Rock, Texas-based Dell Inc. for \$13.65 per share, or a total of \$24.4 billion. Michael Dell believes he can turn the company around by taking it private and diversifying into niches, such as business software, data storage and consulting.

But Carl Icahn, a billionaire investor and Dell's second-largest shareholder, says he wants Dell to remain

publicly traded and boost value for shareholders by buying back \$16 billion in stock. The company has backed Michael Dell's proposal and said that Icahn doesn't have adequate financing for his plan. Shareholders will vote on the buyout offer at the company's annual meeting on July 18. In its report, Institutional Shareholder Services pointed to the offer's hefty premium, about 26 percent over the company's share price before the offer became public, and the certainty that comes with an all-cash bid.

ISS said that if shareholders don't take the offer, they have to be willing to continue to hold shares in Dell as it continues to trans-

form itself amid the risks of a still deteriorating personal computer industry.

The special committee of Dell's board evaluating the company's options said in a statement that it was pleased with the recommendation, noting that it believes not going forward with the sale would expose the company and its shareholders to "serious risks" that would further reduce the company's value.

Icahn said Sunday that he believes Michael Dell is trying to buy the company he founded at a "bargain price." He reiterated the benefits of his alternate proposal, which would involve the repurchase of up to 1.1 billion Dell shares at \$14 apiece.

On Monday, Icahn and his ally, Southeastern Asset Management, said in a statement that they would vote against the buyout offer being supported by Michael Dell. "We continue to believe that Dell's owners deserve better," they said in the statement.

Icahn's plan would be funded with \$5.2 billion in debt, \$7.5 billion in Dell cash and \$2.9 billion from the sale of Dell receivables. Icahn has said he and his affiliates have \$5 billion in existing equity and proposed debt financing to help fund their proposal.

Dell shares rose 41 cents, or 3.1 percent, to \$13.44 in trading on Monday — 21 cents below the offer price of \$13.65. □

STREET BRIEFS

Alcoa posts 2Q \$119M loss on restructuring

NEW YORK (AP) — Alcoa says its second-quarter loss widened due to weak aluminum prices, although the results are better than expected after backing out restructuring and legal costs.

The company continues to see strong sales of aluminum products used in automobiles and airplanes. Alcoa Inc.'s said Monday that it lost \$119 million, or 11 cents per share, in the April-through-June quarter. That compares with a loss of \$2 million, or break-even on a per-share basis, a year ago. Excluding special items such as restructuring expenses, Alcoa says it would have earned 7 cents per share, a penny more than analysts expected, according to FactSet. □

Clearwire Corp. shareholders OK new Sprint deal

NEW YORK (AP) — Clearwire Corp. says its shareholders have voted in favor of selling the rest of its shares to majority owner Sprint Nextel Corp.

Sprint offered \$5 per share for the rest of Clearwire, which runs a mobile broadband network that Sprint uses to provide "Sprint 4G" service on many of its phones.

Sprint hopes the deal will make it more competitive with bigger rivals Verizon Wireless and AT&T Inc. It had to raise its original bid for Clearwire to overcome a competing bid from Dish Network.

Bellevue, Washington-based Clearwire says about 82 percent of its shares that were not affiliated with Sprint were voted in favor of the sale. Sprint and Clearwire expect complete the transaction on Tuesday.

Sprint, in turn, has agreed to be acquired by Japan's Softbank for \$21.6 billion. □

US consumer borrowing up as credit card use rises

MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Americans increased their borrowing in May at the fastest pace in a year. Borrowing in the category that includes credit cards reached its highest point since the fall of 2010.

Increased borrowing typically means that consumers are feeling more confident.

Americans stepped up their borrowing by \$19.6 billion in May compared with April, the Federal Reserve said Monday in its monthly report on consumer credit. That was the biggest jump since a \$19.9 billion rise in May 2012.

Total borrowing reached a record \$2.84 trillion.

The category that includes credit card use rose \$6.6 billion, also the largest gain in a year. Credit card debt reached \$847.1 billion, the most since September 2010. Credit card debt remains about 16 percent below its high of \$1.02 trillion in July 2008 — just before the financial crisis erupted.

Borrowing for autos and student loans rose \$13 billion in May. That was the sharpest increase since February. This category of borrowing has been rising especially fast, driven by loans to pay for college.

The Federal Reserve's consumer credit report does not separate student loans from auto loans. But data from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York show that student loan debt has been the biggest driver of borrowing since the Great Recession officially ended. In part, that's because some unemployed Americans have returned to school for

training in hopes of landing a job.

More credit card borrowing could help boost consumer spending, which accounts for 70 percent of economic activity. But some consumers have been hesitant to run up high-interest debt since the recession ended. Some economists say many Americans remain cautious because higher Social Security taxes this year have reduced paychecks for most.

Despite the jump in credit card debt in May, consumers aren't likely to increase their card use to pre-recession levels, said Cooper Howes, an economist at Barclays Research. Credit card debt is known as revolving credit.

"We expect the trends of student loan-driven expansion ... and only small changes in revolving cred-

it to continue in coming months," Howes said.

The measure of card debt in the Fed's report has risen \$15.8 billion this year. That compares with annual increases of \$25 billion to \$50 billion in credit card debt before the Great Recession, which officially began in December 2007 and ended in June 2009.

Rising home prices and steady job growth have helped offset any damage to the U.S. economy from the higher Social Security tax.

Employers added 195,000 jobs in June and many more in April and May than previously thought, the government said Friday. Pay was also up sharply. Over the past 12 months, pay has risen 2.2 percent while consumer prices have increased 1.4 percent.

Consumers boosted their

spending from January through March but reduced the pace of their savings to finance it. After-tax income dropped in the first quarter.

That decline reflected, in part, the increased Social Security tax that took effect Jan. 1. A person earning \$50,000 a year has about \$1,000 less to spend this year. A household with two highly paid workers has up to \$4,500 less.

The economy grew at an annual rate of only 1.8 percent in the January-March quarter. Many economists have forecast that growth in the April-June quarter will weaken further to around 1.5 percent.

But they think the economy will rebound somewhat in the second half of this year as stronger employment growth fuels more consumer spending. □



Customers browse through the Look Boutique at the Walgreens flagship store in the Empire State Building, in New York. Americans stepped up their borrowing by \$19.6 billion in May compared with April, the Federal Reserve said Monday, July 8, 2013, in its monthly report on consumer credit. That was the biggest jump since a \$19.9 billion rise in May 2012.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

Oil dips, market awaits OPEC, US supply reports

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The price of oil finished with a small loss Monday as traders waited for potentially market-moving news at midweek.

U.S. benchmark crude for August delivery slipped 8 cents to \$103.14 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Brent crude dropped 29

cents to \$107.43 on the ICE Futures exchange in London.

Oil was pushed higher last week by worries turmoil in Egypt could disrupt shipments through the Suez Canal and a report showing robust job growth in the U.S. in June.

Later this week, the Energy Department releases its weekly report on supplies

of crude oil and petroleum products, the U.S. Federal Reserve releases minutes of its recent policy meeting and OPEC issues its monthly update on the oil market.

A large decline in U.S. supplies, or signs that OPEC decreased output last month could boost prices, analysts say.

Additional insight into the

Fed's thinking on monetary policy should also influence trading.

In other energy futures trading on the Nymex:

— Wholesale gasoline dropped 1 cent to \$2.88 per gallon.

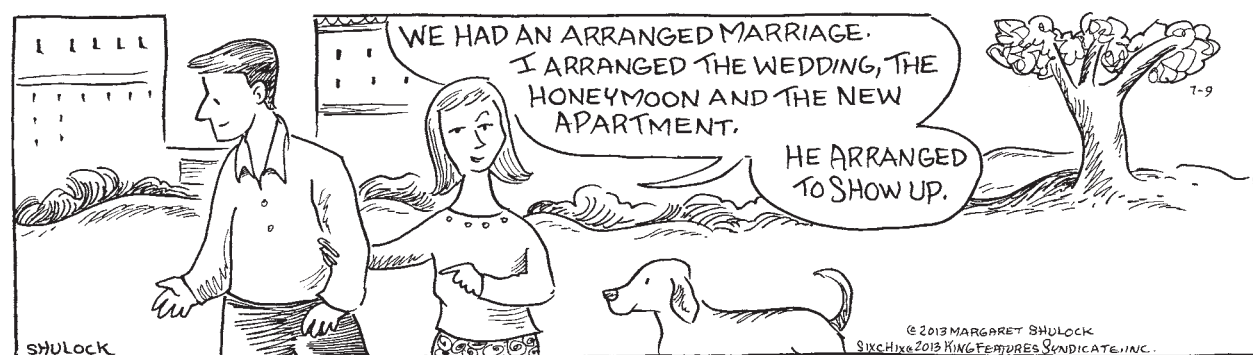
— Natural gas rose 12 cents to \$3.74 per 1,000 cubic feet.

— Heating oil fell 1 cent to \$2.98 per gallon. □

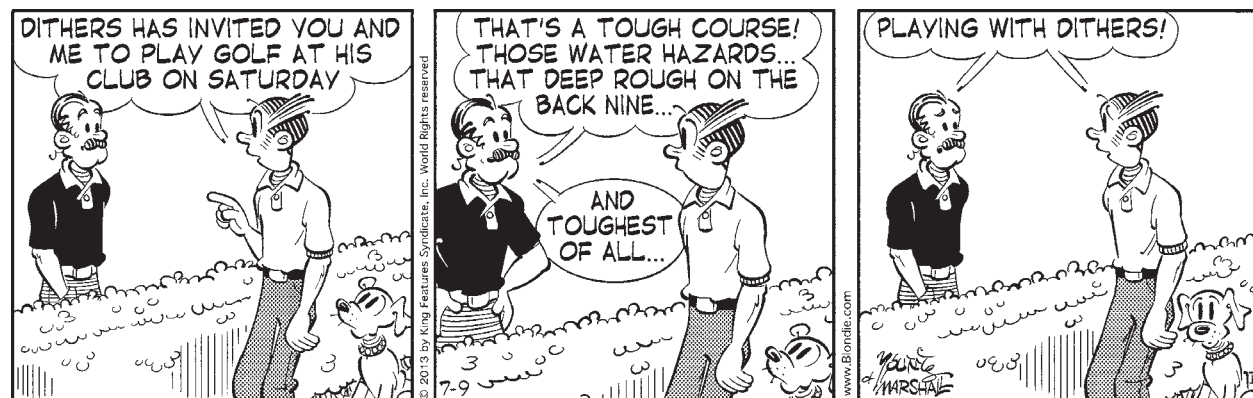
Mutts



6 Chix



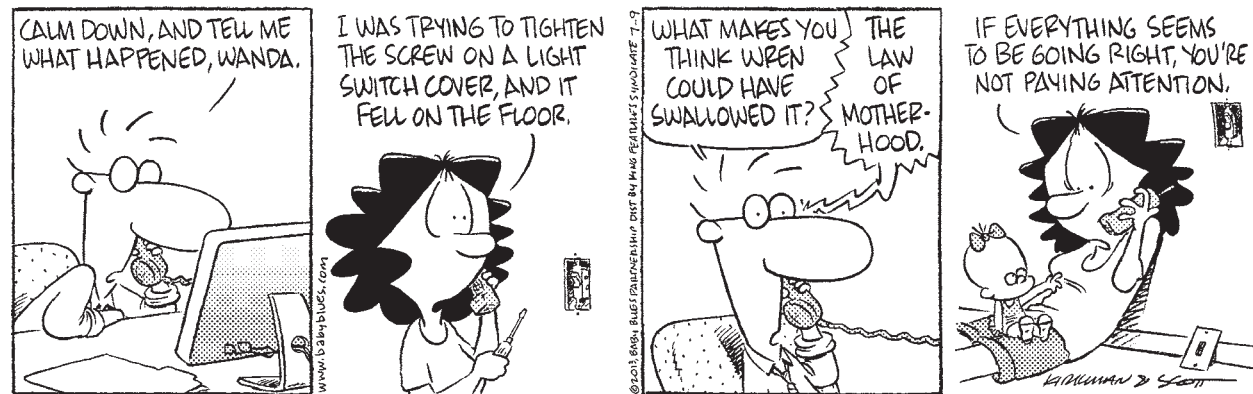
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		9		4		7		
	6		2		5		1	
2								6
	2		1		7		6	
8								9
	1		8		2		4	
4								1
	3		9		6		5	
		6		5		2		

Difficulty Level ★★

7/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

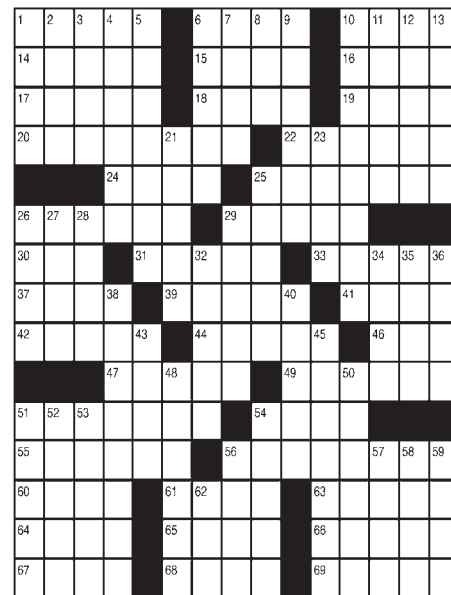
8	6	5	3	2	7	1	4	9
7	4	3	9	6	1	5	8	2
2	1	9	8	5	4	3	7	6
5	3	7	2	1	8	9	6	4
6	2	8	4	9	5	7	3	1
4	9	1	7	3	6	2	5	8
3	5	2	6	4	9	8	1	7
1	8	6	5	7	2	4	9	3
9	7	4	1	8	3	6	2	5

ACROSS

- 1 Scour
- 6 Cancer the ___; Zodiac sign
- 10 Facts & figures
- 14 Animal with a long flexible snout
- 15 ___ & slippers; after-bath wear
- 16 Heroic tale
- 17 Leaves out
- 18 Response to a pinprick
- 19 Is unable to
- 20 Air a TV show
- 22 Come forth
- 24 Carpets
- 25 Swollen
- 26 Dried grape
- 29 Drinks made with ice cream
- 30 Also say
- 31 Pavarotti or Caruso
- 33 Whiplash sites
- 37 Powder ingredient
- 39 Capital of Bulgaria
- 41 Sand mound
- 42 Make a smudge worse
- 44 Fundamental
- 46 Actress Leoni
- 47 Manicurist's concerns
- 49 India's dollars
- 51 Soda cracker
- 54 German mister
- 55 Visitors from another planet
- 21 Actress Moorehead
- 23 Complain
- 25 Karloff or Becker
- 26 Word of disgust
- 27 Eden resident
- 28 Just sitting there
- 29 Divans
- 32 Chivalrous
- 34 ___ as a button
- 35 Leg joint
- 36 Bodies of water
- 38 Hikers' water flasks
- 40 Showed to the public

DOWN

- 1 Glasgow native
- 2 Arrive



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/9/13

Monday's Puzzle Solved

YAM	ABYSS	SERB
IBIS	SLOPE	AWAY
PENT	CIGAR	TENT
DEADENING	URGE	
YANK	EAR	
UPLIFT	CHANNING	
PRINT	SOUND	CAL
PONG	UPSET	VIVA
EVE	KNITS	MINED
REDCOATS	DANGLE	
RIB	DOVE	
FETA	ASPARAGUS	
AVID	URNS	ASAP
CELL	EMOTE	RENO
TREE	DOPEY	RED

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7/9/13

- 43 Precipitation
- 45 ___ about; dying to know
- 48 Bonkers
- 50 Quick to act
- 51 Cavalry sword
- 52 ___ and kicking; healthy
- 53 Had a preference for
- 54 Makes well together
- 57 Poncho
- 58 TV's Perlman
- 59 British peer
- 62 Skedaddle

A Lesson In Air Safety: Out In 90 Seconds

JOE SHARKEY

© 2013 New York Times

Next time you're on a plane at takeoff or landing, watch the flight attendant in the jump seat, seemingly lost in thought. Is she idly wondering where she parked her the car at the airport or what's for dinner?

Not likely, said Leslie Mayo, a flight attendant for more than 26 years. Instead, that flight attendant is probably mentally running through "the 30-second review that's been drilled into our heads," she said.

"If you see some of us just sitting there looking out into space, we're probably actually reviewing those safety procedures. You're assessing the cabin. You're thinking, if there's an evacuation, who are my assistants going to be? Who's going to be the most helpful and calm in a situation where you really need help from passengers?" said Mayo, who is also a spokeswoman for the Association of Professional Flight Attendants, which represents more than 16,000 American Airlines flight attendants.

As investigators work to determine the cause (or, more likely, causes) of the crash of Asiana Flight 214 that killed two and injured 180 at San Francisco International Airport on Saturday, people with expertise in aviation safety, or with personal experience in aviation disasters, have been shaking their heads in wonder. How could so many have evacuated that airplane alive? And what can be learned about aviation safety from this incident? Asiana flight attendants have won wide praise for their performance. Mayo and others are amazed that it took only about 90 seconds to get everyone off that plane, which was carrying 291 passengers and 16 crew. The evacuation was also aided by some passengers who by and large remained calm on an airplane that was on fire, filled with smoke, its tail section broken off, with several of its emergency evacuation slides malfunctioning.

For passengers, some basic lessons were firmly reinforced. These include following crew members' instructions in an emergency and the overall importance of what the safety experts call situational awareness. Routinely, on any flight, we should know exactly where those exit doors are that the flight



Flight attendants on the Asiana Airlines plane that crashed in San Francisco on July 6, 2013, have won wide praise for quickly getting passengers off the plane.
(Chi Birmingham/The New York Times)

attendants keep trying to point out during the usually ignored safety demonstrations. We should be asking ourselves, if an emergency occurred what would I do? If I'm in or near an exit row,

can I open that door? Other reinforced lessons were the importance of cabin-design safety, an initiative that has helped to sharply reduce accident casualties. "It's a testament to some of the safety features that have been designed into new airplanes that so many people were able to walk away on Saturday," said Matt Ziemkiewicz, president of the National Air Disaster Alliance Foundation, whose members include people, including aviation professionals, who have lost relatives in airplane accidents. Still, as Ziemkiewicz and others pointed out, new questions are arising about some design features on the wide-body Boeing 777 that crashed on Saturday. Among the things that the National Transportation Safety Board will be looking closely at is whether some coach-cabin seats came off their tracks or sustained unacceptable damage on impact, and why two of the inflatable emergency slides apparently opened inside the cabin, pinning several people before crew members found an ax to deflate the slides. □

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SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
POLIS TIPLINE	11141
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	
AMBULANCE	584-5050

PHARMACY

O'STAD: Paradera Tel. 588-6638
S. NICOLAS: San Nicolas Tel: 584-5712

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PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
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Advocates:

US stewardship of wild horses ineffective

DAN FROSCH

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DENVER - A new report catalogs a range of problems with the way the federal government is managing thousands of wild horses and burros that roam the American West, supporting the position of animal rights advocates who have long argued that the program is ineffective and needlessly cruel.

The report, conducted by the National Academy of Sciences at the behest of the Bureau of Land Management and released recently, concluded that the bureau's methods of counting the thousands of wild horses and burros that wander rural stretches of the United States were inconsistent and most likely inaccurate.

It also said the bureau's policy of removing the animals from the range and taking them to holding facilities as a means of population control, an approach that has drawn sharp criticism from wild horse proponents, did not work.

"Continuing 'business as usual' will be expensive and unproductive for BLM and the public it serves,"

the report said. "Compelling evidence exists that there are more horses and burros on public rangelands than reported at the national level and that population growth rates are high."

An icon of frontier mythol-

And it says it has little choice but to bring them to enclosed pastures so other animals can share the land.

Horse advocates counter that the horses should be allowed to live freely.

The bureau estimates that



A helicopter helps round up wild horses in Susanville, Calif. A 2013 report conducted by the National Academy of Sciences says a policy of moving animals to holding facilities as a means of population control is ineffective and cruel.

(Jim Wilson/The New York Times)

ogy, wild horses, which trace their lineage to U.S. Cavalry horses, workhorses and horses brought by Spanish settlers, have been at the center of an increasingly bitter dispute over the past several years.

The bureau contends that their numbers have become unmanageable.

about 37,300 wild horses and burros roam on federally managed rangeland in 10 Western states and that nearly 50,000 additional animals are being cared for at short-term corrals and long-term pastures. With essentially no natural predators, herds typically double every four years.

The National Academy of Sciences report found that the bureau had most likely undercounted the horses by 10 to 50 percent. It also said that the bureau's horse removals might inadvertently allow the animal population to swell by reducing competition for forage. The report recommended that more fertility control drugs be used as an alternative, a departure from the bureau's current approach.

In its research, the National Academy of Sciences did not specifically address the issue of roundups, which involve helicopters corralling wild horses into traps and have become a rallying cry for critics who say they are dangerous and inhumane.

Nonetheless, horse advocates said the findings affirmed their concerns by calling for changes in the program.

"The report is a powerful validation of what wild horse advocates have been saying for years," said Suzanne Roy, director of the American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign. "The report delivers a strong case for an immediate halt to the

roundup and removal of wild horses from the range, an increase in wild horse and burro population levels and implementation of in-the-wild management using available fertility control options."

A bureau spokesman, Tom Gorey, said the bureau needed and wanted to do a better job managing the animals, but was well aware the program was in a "crisis" because it was running out of holding space. Gorey also pointed out that because fertility control treatments lasted only one to two years, some horse removals would have to continue.

Leaving the population control to nature, he said, "would subject horses and burros to mass starvation and dehydration," he said.

"We don't think that laissez-faire style is something the American public or Congress would support."

Gorey noted that the conclusion that wild horses had been undercounted undermined assertions from animal rights advocates that the program was deliberately overstating the problem "to disguise an alleged agenda of 'managing for extinction.'" □

Tiny fossil find could reset Asia or Africa origin debate

JOHN NOBLE WILFORD

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A nearly complete skeleton of a tiny, ancient primate - one that weighed no more than an ounce, had a tail longer than its body and would fit in the palm of a human hand - is the earliest well-preserved fossil primate ever found, dating back some 55 million years and dialing back the fossil record for primates by an impressive 8 million years, a research team declared recently.

The finding adds weight to the evidence that primates originated in Asia - not Africa - and that they emerged relatively soon after the extinction of the dinosaurs, which happened about 66 mil-

lion years ago in an event known as the Cretaceous mass extinction.

The older date brings scientists closer to pinpointing a pivotal event in primate and human evolution: the divergence between the lineage leading to anthropoids - which include modern monkeys, apes and humans - and the one leading to tarsiers.

In a report published in the journal *Nature*, an international team of paleontologists led by Xijun Ni of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing said that the skeleton, recovered from an ancient lake bed in Hubei province in central China, set a new benchmark for the time that primates started roaming the

planet.

The primate skeleton belongs to a species never seen before, one that the researchers identified as the earliest known ancestor of tarsiers - a type of small, nocturnal primate living today in the forests of Southeast Asia. This unprepossessing early primate, which dwelt in trees and feasted on insects, was even smaller than today's smallest primate, the pygmy mouse lemur of Madagascar.

Ni said in a statement that the findings marked "the first time that we have a reasonably complete picture of a primate close to the divergence," concluding that it is "a big step forward in our efforts to chart

the course of the earliest phases of primate and human evolution."

"We've heard of the 'out of Africa' theory of human evolution, but that's recent history," said K. Christopher Beard, a paleontologist at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh and an author of the journal report. "So there may now be the 'into Africa' problem." That is: How and when did some primates finally make it to Africa, which was an island until as recently as 16 million years ago, to set in motion the emergence of the human species?

There is evidence that 38 million years ago, some primates had apparently crossed open water to

colonize the African continent.

The fossil from Hubei does not answer the question of how that happened, but it does give paleontologists plenty to work on for years to come.

The skeleton "differs radically from any other primate, living or fossil, known to science," Beard said. "It looks like an odd hybrid, with the feet of a small monkey, the arms, legs and teeth of a very primitive primate, and a primitive skull bearing surprisingly small eyes." For clues, the researchers looked to the previously oldest primate fossil specimen, a skeleton from Germany that was named in 2009 as *Darwinius masillae*. □

Picturehouse resurrected with a 3-d film on Metallica

MICHAEL CIEPLY

© 2013 New York Times

LOS ANGELES - Picturehouse, a distributor of art films that helped corner an Oscar for Marion Cotillard as Edith Piaf in "La Vie

ers like "Predators" and "Armored," it is co-written by members of the band. The film combines footage of a Canadian concert, in which stage props and equipment col-

so often-costumed attendees, the gathering, which runs from a preview evening on July 17 through July 21 at the San Diego Convention Center, is always vaguely apocalyptic.

ly clog the restrooms.

Yet music has remained something of an oddity at a convention that specializes in the odd.

Asked last week to pinpoint some musical highlights in the convention's 44-year history, David Glazer, Comic-Con's director of marketing and public relations, could immediately think of only one. That would be a 2005 performance by Jack Black and Kyle Gass as the rock duo Tenacious D. (It was called "the show that never happened," because recording, in keeping with Comic-Con practice, was forbidden.)

In truth, music has occasionally popped up in and around Comic-Con. This year, for instance, it will be the subject of a Thursday morning discussion among some film composers, including Marco Beltrami ("The Wolverine"), and directors, including Shane Black ("Iron Man 3") about the gentle art of scoring for superheroes.

But it has not been an integral part of the fun, as it has at the South by Southwest festival in Texas. And it has

rarely been an aggressive attention-getter of the sort Berney is planning for a Metallica presentation that intends to reach beyond the usual patter about lifelong reverence for the art of the comic book and such.

"When we've been down there, it's always been the same, they tend to be the same panels," said Berney, echoing a complaint that has become common among many who frequent the convention. In the past, Berney stopped in while promoting films like "Pan's Labyrinth," a sophisticated fantasy that Picturehouse, in its earlier incarnation, released in 2006. Directed by Guillermo del Toro, the film received six Oscar nominations.

The old Picturehouse, which was a joint venture between Time Warner's HBO and New Line Cinema units, certainly had a reputation for avoiding dreary sameness. Still, its risks did not always pay. One of its more daring bets, "Fur: An Imaginary Portrait of Diane Arbus," for instance, had well under \$1 million in domestic ticket sales when it was released in 2006. □



A handout photo of the movie poster for Picturehouse's new 3-D Imax movie, "Metallica Through the Never."

(Handout Photo)

en Rose" before folding in 2008, will come screaming back to life at the Comic-Con International fantasy convention next week in San Diego.

And it will arrive with something to wake the undead: clips from its new 3-D Imax movie, "Metallica Through the Never," plus a musical event - 500 free tickets to hear Metallica, live - that is promising to transform an annual fan gathering not known in recent years for its musical offerings. Piaf, this is not.

The Metallica movie, Picturehouse's inaugural project, is outsize and heavily amplified. "We see it as being very disruptive," said Bob Berney, a film executive who is clearly out to create a more ferocious version of Picturehouse.

When he spoke of disruption, Berney referred partly to an unusual release plan: the film, "Metallica Through the Never," will open only on large-format Imax screens when it begins its commercial run Sept. 27, before moving to hundreds of additional theaters a week later.

Creatively, moreover, the film is an exercise in controlled chaos.

Directed by Nimród Antal, known for action thrill-

lapsed around them, with a scripted fantasy about a young roadie, played by Dane DeHaan, who skitters through what might be the apocalypse.

Given that, the choice of Comic-Con seems appropriate. With its 125,000 or

But a live concert by one of the world's less-restrained metal bands - neither Berney nor Comic-Con's sponsors have yet said how tickets will be doled out to the lucky few - should add fresh shock value to a convention where zombies routine-

Doctor says thought Jackson had drug problem

ANTHONY MCCARTNEY
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A doctor who treated Michael Jackson during a 1993 concert tour that had to be canceled when the singer entered rehab testified Monday about the signs that led him to conclude the singer had a problem with prescription pain medications at the time.

In videotaped testimony, Dr. Stuart Finkelstein said he was later asked by concert promoter AEG Live to act as Jackson's personal physician during the ill-fated "This Is It" tour in 2009 but wanted to know if Jackson was "clean."

AEG executive Paul Gongaware said he didn't believe Jackson had any prescription drug issues, Finkelstein testified.

Finkelstein's testimony was recorded during a February deposition that was

played for jurors hearing a negligence lawsuit by Jackson's mother against AEG Live LLC. Katherine Jackson claims AEG failed to properly investigate another doctor who later gave her son an overdose of the anesthetic propofol

and that the company ignored warning signs about her son's health.

Finkelstein said he first suspected Jackson had a dependence on pain medications in 1993 while working on the "Dangerous" tour. He recounted spend-

ing 24 hours in the singer's hotel suite and administering morphine intravenously to deal with Jackson's pain. He said he gave Jackson morphine during their first meeting because the singer's buttocks were scarred from previous unspecified treatments and he was concerned about giving an injection of the painkiller Demerol.

Finkelstein said he gave Jackson one other painkiller treatment before the "Dangerous" tour was halted after what he described as an intervention by Elizabeth Taylor and others in Mexico City.

The doctor, who now specializes in addiction medicine and works for concert promoters treating injuries to performers, said he relayed his concerns about Jackson's painkiller use to Gongaware, then a "Dangerous" tour worker. □



This publicity photo shows a sneak peek of Michael Jackson ONE by Cirque du Soleil at Mandalay Bay, in Las Vegas. A doctor who treated Michael Jackson during a 1993 concert tour that had to be canceled when the singer entered rehab testified Monday about the signs that led him to conclude the singer had a problem with prescription pain medications at the time.

(AP Photo/Cirque du Soleil)

Deggans Column:

Two new TV series to get excited about

© 2012 Tampa Bay Times
BY ERIC DEGGANS

Two of the most important television shows of the summer will debut this week. So pay attention, because they're easy to miss in the flood of reality TV shows about people stuck in a house and naked folks trudging through the wilderness.

The first, FX's *The Bridge*, is an intimate, twisted look at life on the border using a horrific device: A body is found on the bridge leading from El Paso to Juárez, with half of a woman lying in Texas and half in Mexico, the waistline positioned on the border.

The second series, Netflix's *Orange Is the New Black*, tells the story of hapless Piper Chapman, a typically high-strung, middle-class graduate of Smith College who gets sentenced to 15 months in prison for transporting money given to her by a drug-dealing lesbian lover years ago.

One is a gritty drama, one is a gritty comedy. One airs weekly on a cable channel; the other will release all 13 hourlong episodes at once via online streaming. Both take viewers to places American media rarely venture these days, busting up the traditional male-centered antihero formula of high-end TV shows in the process.

"We have lots of bodies and lots of parts and bones and skulls," laments Demian Bichir's Marco Ruiz, the beleaguered detective for the Chihuahua State Police who gets sucked into investigating a murder calculated to draw attention from both U.S. and Mexican authorities.

Loosely based on a series of the same name on Danish/Swedish TV, this show features a murder quickly tied to an infamous run of murders in Ciudad Juárez. According to Amnesty International, more than 370 women have been murdered in that city since 1993, often working in the country's many foreign-owned manufac-

turing plants making products cheaply for export, known as maquiladoras. (Last year, there were 767 murders in Ciudad Juárez; there were 533 homicides the same year in Chicago, a city with nearly twice the population.) On *The Bridge*, Mexican police are so overwhelmed

They seem to face a serial killer with a conscience, calibrating his crimes to force officials on both sides of the border to face brutal realities they'd rather avoid. For Americans, it's the hypocrisy of punishing undocumented workers while ignoring conditions across the border that

times. "I'm wearing granny panties and I've only spoken to white people," sobs Chapman (Taylor Schilling) over the phone to her fiancée, played by American Pie's Jason Biggs. Earlier she had insisted "you can't show any weakness, that's what all the books say." Yes, she studied for a trip to



An undated publicity handout photo of FX's *The Bridge*. In a field of several new shows this season, FX's *The Bridge*, an intimate, twisted look at life on the border, is one to watch.

(Handout Photo)

and cowed by the cartels Ruiz laments they demand of police "you take our silver or you take our lead" that even the parents of murdered girls are not interviewed by police.

Ruiz is forced to team with Sonya Cross (German actress Diane Kruger), the supremely focused investigator for El Paso's Crimes Against Persons unit. But Cross also has Asperger's syndrome though not spelled out explicitly in the first three episodes working cases as a high-functioning autistic person who has trouble deciphering emotions and can't bear to be touched.

Ted Levine (*Monk*, *Silence of the Lambs*) also shines as a paternal superior in El Paso, Annabeth Gish (*Brotherhood*, *Pretty Little Liars*) is the widow of a rancher with a decidedly illegal sideline, and Lyle Lovett is an attorney aligned with the rancher.

contribute to their comfort. For Mexicans, it's the tolerance of lawless brutalities inflicted by the cartels and psychopaths following in their path like so many flies. As a critic, I loved seeing a Mexican policeman's life rendered so realistically and compellingly. Cross is a female antihero hobbled mostly by her lack of empathy. (Why are female antiheroes, like *Homeland*'s Carrie Mathison or *Nurse Jackie*'s Jackie Peyton, so often struggling with psychological illnesses such as bipolar disorder or addiction?)

Developed by *Weeds* creator Jenji Kohan, *Orange* recreates the story of a middle-class woman gone bad, mining much of its comedy from the absurdity of seeing a Starbucks-drinking urbanite forced into a world populated by working-class ladies with a talent for making the worst choices at the wrong

prison. Kohan also takes time to show the back stories of some other inmates, including a married, African-American transsexual (and former firefighter) imprisoned after using stolen credit card numbers to finance his sex change operation.

You can nitpick both series. It's hard to believe a middle-class white woman with no prior record would get so much jail time. And it's equally hard to believe a woman who struggles to read people's emotions would be very effective in solving what is often the most extreme crime of passion: a murder.

But as longtime dramas such as *Dexter* and *Breaking Bad* play out their final seasons this summer, it's encouraging to see two new series with fresh takes on realism and social decay emerging from the wings. □

Celine Dion helps launch Canadian musician on Strip

MICHELLE RINDELS
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Perched atop the performer hierarchy in Las Vegas, where she holds court in the Caesars Palace Colosseum, five-time Grammy winner Celine Dion could quite easily sit on her laurels. But the 45-year-old mother of three is using her influence on new projects, working on a new album due out in October and co-producing the show of a fellow French Canadian songstress setting up shop across the street at Bally's. "I'm not looking to make friends in the business because I want to do my job, I want to have a good time and go home to my family," Dion said in a recent interview with The Associated Press, sitting on stage next to a protege with whom she casually chatted in French.

"But Veronica — it's a different scenario. I'm not quite sure why. I want her to be my friend. I love her. I respect her very, very much."

Veronic DiCaire — a winsome blonde from Ontario with boundless energy and just a wisp of an accent — previously opened for Dion during a 2008 tour stop in Montreal. In late June, she launched a two-month run of "Veronic Voices," in which she impersonates 50 female artists ranging from Whitney Houston to Carrie Underwood and Lady Gaga.

In a city where it's hard to stroll the sidewalk without running into a Michael Jackson or Elvis impressionist, DiCaire's struggle will be rising above the stigmatized title of impersonator — something Dion said DiCaire can do because she "becomes" her characters.

"You've seen impersonators, you've seen men doing women, and women doing men," Dion said. "Sometimes it's funny, and sometimes it's so exaggerated."

We've seen it all. With Veronica it's very, very different. □

Let's Make A Deal



GAIL COLLINS
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At this point in the long holiday weekend, I'm ready to kick back and discuss immigration reform. It's a very important issue. Plus, I have found it difficult to keep a dinner party conversation going with the farm bill. Here's one of the good things about the immigration bill that passed the Senate last week. It reminds us of how things used to work in Congress, back in the day when the two parties would get together and make big messy deals that we all complained about.

Which now, of course, we miss. Come back, big messy deals! All is forgiven.

To be fair, the Senate never entirely lost its gift for the BMD. For instance - although we are really not going to talk about this - senators are terrific with the farm bill, a classic merging of interests that mixes money for agricultural subsidies with the food stamp program.

They could pass a farm bill every day. And, it goes without saying, the House of Representatives can't. Ever.

Immigration reform was an invitation to deal-making from the get-go. Its yin and yang are border security, plus giving a path to citizenship to the estimated 11 million people who are currently living here without documentation.

Senators have been working on a plan for ages. ("What is the rush?" Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas demanded during the final debate. The listening world said hahahaha.)

As things moved along, the path to citizenship got longer while the border security section got tougher. Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida, one of the bipartisan Gang of Eight that brokered the deal, was continually peeling off to tell some TV interviewer that there had to be way, way more on the security front.

Rubio was an excellent example of the problems you are going to have when you invite a presidential hopeful to join your gang.

More compromise was in order! So the bill came out of the Judiciary Committee with a 13-year path to citizenship and 3,500 additional border protection officers. Then it went to the full Senate, where the sponsors agreed to add on another 20,000 border agents and expand the wall-like border fence to 700 miles. Price

tag: \$30 billion.

"It's a huge, huge buildup," said Chris Wilson, an analyst at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. "We doubled the border patrol in the 1990s. We doubled it again in the first decade of the century. Now we're considering doubling it again."

It is certainly true that the more border patrol agents you assign, the more people you catch trying to cross the border.

It is also true that the more agents you assign, the less pay-off you get for each additional federal employee. Right now in the area around El Paso, Wilson said, "it's around 3 1/2 apprehensions per agent per year."

Sooner or later, we will eliminate illegal crossings completely, thanks to the roughly 6 million agents we will employ to stand holding hands across the length of the border, around the clock. Illegal immigration across the Mexican border is a problem. However, it's hardly the worst threat we've got out there.

Last month, Rolling Stone had a long and terrifying article about how rising sea levels could begin to overwhelm Miami within the next couple of decades. Next time you see Rubio, be sure to ask him about this.

If we can afford to pay border agents to catch three people a year, shouldn't we at least be looking at getting the Miami nuclear reactors onto higher ground?

The immigration reformers wanted a big vote.

Not just a majority, or even the normal Senate-majority 60 percent, but a whopping Supersize-Me majority that would send shock and awe through the ranks of the resistant House. So they tossed in agents, fences and a special deal for the Alaskan seafood packers.

The final vote was 68-32. Not at all bad for a body that couldn't garner the political willpower to ratify the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities. True, it throws \$30 billion at an inefficient solution to a problem that seems to be dwindling under its own steam. But it's got that path to citizenship, and it's no worse than giving \$3 billion a year to the nation's cotton planters.

The bill now goes to the House, where the speaker says he won't bring it up for a vote except in the exceedingly unlikely event that a majority of the Republicans want him to. House Democrats are hoping they can find the 20-odd Republicans they'd need to get a discharge petition. Many of us in the media are really excited about that possibility, because then we will get to repeatedly explain to you what a discharge petition is.

Also, that would give us a big messy deal on immigration. Which would actually be extremely cool. □



Hidden Consensus On Health Care



ROSS DOUTHAT
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To follow what's happening with the new health care law right now, you have to understand that for all the deep divisions on the issue, there's actually a real bipartisan consensus about how the U.S. health care system ought to be reformed.

Or rather, there are two of them - a dishonest consensus among politicians and an honest consensus among people who study public policy for a living.

The politicians' consensus is that health care reform shouldn't alter or disrupt the way the majority of Americans get their insurance today. This is President Barack Obama's official position on the issue: Again and again throughout the fraught 2009 debate, he reassured voters that, if they liked their existing health care plan, his bill wouldn't prevent them from keeping it. It's also the official position of his Republican critics, who have consistently attacked Obamacare for undercutting that presidential promise - for slashing Medicare, for driving up premiums and for threatening the employer-provided insurance status quo. The policy consensus, though, is that the status quo is actually the problem, and that it deserves to be threatened, undermined and replaced as expeditiously as possible. Winks of the left and right disagree on what that replacement should look like. But they're united in regarding employer-provided coverage as an unsustainable relic: a burden on businesses, a source of perverse incentives

for the health care market and an obstacle to more efficient, affordable and universal coverage. Yet woe betide the politician who dares to publicly agree. That's what John McCain discovered in 2008, when he proposed a sweeping reform that would have eliminated the tax incentives that undergird employer-provided coverage. Conservative policy types loved the idea (as well they should, being responsible for it), but it cost McCain dearly: The Obama campaign used it to attack him, relentlessly and effectively, as an enemy of the way most middle-class people get health insurance, and thus of the middle class itself.

These attacks, in turn, constrained the Obama White House when it came time to design its own health care reform. Obamacare has an unwieldy, Frankenstein's monster quality in part because the law is trying to serve both consensus at once. The core of the bill, the subsidies for the uninsured and the exchanges where they can purchase plans, is designed to offer a center-left alternative to the existing system. But much of the surrounding architecture is designed to prop up existing arrangements - and in the process, protect Obama from exactly the kind of criticisms he once leveled against McCain. Or at least, it was designed that way. But then came last week's announcement that the White House would be delaying, for a year, the new health care law's employer mandate, which requires businesses with more than 50 employees to offer health coverage or face a fine. Republicans reacted by hyping the announcement as a sign that the entire law is unraveling, Democrats by minimizing the significance of the move. But the more telling reaction came from the policy world, where conservatives and liberals took a break from their usual disagreements to agree that the White House and Congress

should probably just scrap the employer mandate altogether. That's because the mandate is mostly just a political device designed to hide the full cost of the bill and discourage employers from eliminating employee coverage too quickly once Obamacare's new exchanges are up and running. Like many politically minded regulations, it risked perverse economic consequences - delayed hiring, reduced work hours - which explains why the White House decided to punt it to 2015. But the mandate's outright abandonment is more desirable, because that would have a clarifying effect on the entire health care debate.

Right now, both parties are still pretending that H.R. departments will go on doubling as welfare states forever. If it dropped the employer mandate, the Obama White House would be fully committed to a more disruptive future, in which exchanges and subsidies gradually replaced the employer-based system. And since those exchanges and subsidies are going to be implemented by this administration no matter what - barring a Martian invasion or a zombie apocalypse, at least - the sooner we find out if they really work and what they really cost the better. As Avik Roy, one of the mandate's conservative critics, wrote last week in *Forbes*, "if you like Obamacare, and you want it to work, you don't need the employer mandate." And if you don't like Obamacare (as Roy doesn't), and don't expect it to work, then all the mandate does is delay a necessary reckoning with the new system's flaws.

Either way, the White House's decision is a step toward honesty in policymaking. It takes us a little closer to a world where politicians of both parties actually level with the public, and acknowledge that employer-provided health insurance is an idea whose time has passed. □

Battle on the ground heats up over fighter jets in Vermont

THEO EMERY

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WASHINGTON - For decades, the thunder of Vermont Air National Guard jets has been a noisy feature of life in the towns around Burlington, where the commercial airport also houses the 158th Fighter Wing, known as "The Green Mountain Boys." Now, the potential arrival of louder, new F-35 fighter jets that will replace the guard's aging F-16 fleet is infuriating some residents and has brought growing scrutiny to the process that made the Burlington air base the planes' likely destination.

The fight has grown steadily since 2010, when the Air Force said the Vermont base was a preferred site for F-35s among Air National Guard bases. A second location, Hill Air Force Base in Utah, was chosen from three active duty sites. In the fall, the Air Force is expected to decide where to base the jets. If Burlington is chosen, up to 24 planes will arrive sometime between 2015 and 2020.

The three members of the state's congressional delegation, as well as Gov. Peter Shumlin, a Democrat, support bringing the F-35s to the base. More than 1,000 jobs in the state are supported by the Air National Guard. Supporters say the F-35s will ensure the base's presence long into the future, and will cement Vermont's role in securing the nation's airspace.

But many residents say the planes would erode the quality of life in the area and threaten the health and safety of those living close to the airport, which is in South Burlington. And they argue that the Air Force is playing down the effect of the jets on those residents.

The clash heated up this spring after a Pentagon official, speaking anonymously, told The Boston Globe that a ranking of the bases had been "fudged" to increase Burlington's score, although the official did not provide the numerical evidence.

A 2010 scoring chart pro-

vided to The New York Times showed that before the decision was announced, the base at Burlington received the lowest score of three guard finalists for the F-35s. But the Air Force said that those scores were discarded and Burlington was declared the preferred destination after more qualitative criteria were applied. Similarly, the base in Utah scored second in its field, according to the chart, but was

tional Guard Base in South Carolina received an 87.4, and the Air National Guard base in Jacksonville, Fla., received a 91.

Rosanne Greco, a member of the South Burlington City Council who is a retired Air Force colonel and a critic of the F-35s, questioned the integrity of the process if the scores showed the Vermont base to be less desirable and that location was still selected.

"I don't think this was a

particular outcome.

Col. Frank Freeman, an Air Force deputy assistant secretary, said the chart was prepared for a briefing to a review panel after the site visits. The panel rejected the presentation, though, and asked that the assessment be changed to include qualitative criteria that the numerical system did not reflect, like how easily the F-35s could be substituted for the F-16s already at the base.

ronmental analysis by the Air Force found that thousands more homes would be affected by F-35 noise. Chris Hurd, a real estate agent in South Burlington and an F-35 opponent who organized the demonstration last week, said the decision to abandon the numeric scoring reflected "a murkiness to the process."

"There are so many flaws in the information, and the lack of legitimacy and credibility of the informa-



Nicole Citro, who has marshaled support for F-35 jets, in South Burlington, Vt. The potential arrival of F-35 jets in Vermont has angered residents who say the jets' noise is a danger to the quality of life there. (Caleb Kenna/The New York Times)

declared the preferred combat base.

Critics have speculated whether politics informed the process. Sen. Patrick J. Leahy, D-Vt., the senior member of the Senate, is a chairman of the Senate National Guard Caucus and a longtime advocate for the Air National Guard and its officers.

In one earlier scored assessment, when more bases were under consideration, Burlington received 91 points out of 100. But after a visit by Air Force officials, the score fell to 87.1, the number on the chart provided to The Times. McEntire Joint Na-

military decision. I think this was a political decision," said Greco, who originally supported basing the F-35s in the state, but changed her mind after researching the issue.

In a statement, Leahy said the chart represented just "a snapshot in a lengthy process" without context. He said that if he thought the F-35s would "diminish our community or harm its people," he would not support the plan.

"The process is complex and factors in many considerations," Leahy said. He also said he never sought to influence the selection process or was promised a

In Burlington, the fight over the planes continues. Supporters of the Air Force's plan wear green ribbons and adorn their car bumpers with stickers of an F-35 silhouette.

Last week, opponents blasted sounds of jet engines outside the offices of the Burlington mayor and of the governor in Montpelier, the capital.

The airport is surrounded by neighborhoods in which about 200 empty homes have been deemed uninhabitable because of airplane noise, and the vacancies are expected to grow if the F-35s land there. A recently revised envi-

tion that's been provided by the Air Force, that it frankly calls into question from our standpoint the legitimacy of the entire process," he said.

Nicole Citro, an insurance agent in South Burlington who has marshaled F-35 support, said the undisclosed rankings did not change her opinion that the Vermont base was still best suited for the planes.

"To go through with a fine-tooth comb and look at every single piece of what made up that consideration - I don't know," she said. "We just know that our guys are the best of the best." □